FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 031 *14 February 1984*

ARGENTINA

President To Speak on Falklands Issue Soon B 1
Speech Previewed B 1
UK Falklands Proposal Termed 'Interesting' B 1
UK S. Atlantic 'Acts of Provocation' Denounced B 2
Martinez, Soviet Ambassador Make Statements B 2
Nicaraguan Reconstruction Minister Arrives B 3
Government To Request Extradition of Montoneros B 3
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 12 Feb]
Polish Cardinal Glemp To Visit in March B 4
90 'No Name' Graves Found; OAS Report 'Blocked' B 4
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 10 Feb]
Gordon, Son Arrested; Arms, Documents Seized B 4

BOLIVIA

Government Foreign Debt Decree Draws Protest C 1
MNR Leader Opposes Gas Sale to Brazil C 1
Search Ordered for Garcia Meza, Arce Gomez C 1

BRAZIL

U.S. Said Willing To Negotiate on Steel Imports D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 9 Feb]
Finance Official on Steel Quota D 1
Social Security Minister in Moscow for Funeral D 1
President Receives Senegalese Foreign Minister D 1
President Figueiredo Speaks in Santa Cruz D 2
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 9 Feb]
Military Head Condemns Direct Election Pressures D 3
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 9 Feb]
Army Says Military Unconcerned About Succession D 3
Columnist Says Military Fears Direct Elections D 3
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 13 Feb]
Communist Influence on Direct Elections Feared D 4
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 10 Feb]
Communist Party Elects New Central Committee D 4
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 10 Feb]

CHILE

Economy Minister on U.S. Protectionism, Deficits E 1
Foreign Minister on 'Refugees' Inside Nunciature E 1
Terrorists Attack Carabineros Garrison E 2
'Subversives' Attempt To Blow Up Power Line E 2
El Teniente Mine Office Robbed; Rightists Blamed E 2
Chilean, Argentine Youths Meet on Border E 3

ECUADOR

Foreign Minister Begins European Tour in Rome G 1
Presidential Voting Conducted in 6 Provinces G 1

PARAGUAY

Opposition Leaders Hold Rally, Meetings in Paris H 1
Declaration Issued at Rally [HOY 12 Feb] H 1
Meet With French Official H 1
PLRA Committees Abroad Propose Opposition Moves [HOY 12 Feb] H 3

URUGUAY

Party Leaders on Talks With Military, Elections K 1
Bus Drivers Strike; Army Occupies Terminals K 1
Gen Bonifacio Designated New Chief of Army Staff K 1

VENEZUELA

Soviet Official Says USSR Supports Contadora [EL NACIONAL 5 Feb] L 1
Bulgarian Official on Lusinchi Visit, Relations [EL NACIONAL 2 Feb] L 1

MEXICO

Representatives to Andropov's Funeral Appointed M 1
Hungary's Szuros on PRI Efforts for Social Peace M 1
Nicaraguan Official Says Oil Supply Assured M 1
Algeria Extends Invitation for Meeting M 2
President Addresses Meeting on Workers' Programs M 2
Briefs: Ambassador To Philippines M 2

PANAMA

De la Espriella Resigns; Illueca Assumes Post N 1
Illueca Sworn In N 1
Illueca Comments N 1
Elections Will Be Held N 1
De la Espriella Letter of Resignation N 2
Military Maintains Silence N 2
Illueca Denies UN Post Resignation N 2
Illueca's Statement to Nation N 3
Noriega, Diplomatic Corps Welcomed N 4
Cabinet Meeting Called 14 Feb N 4
Opposition Parties on Presidential Reshuffle N 4
'Abrupt Replacement' N 4
'Typical Coup' N 5
Barletta Announces Resignation From World Bank N 6
PDP on Barletta's Nomination [YA 11 Feb] N 7
MOLIRENA, PNP Nominate Presidential Candidates N 7
MOLIRENA Names Graell [YA 10 Feb] N 7
Paredes Wins PNP Nomination N 7
Paredes Defines Political Stand [LA PRENSA 12 Feb] N 8
Panamenists, Christian Democrats Form Alliance N 8
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 11 Feb]
More Opposition Groups Endorse Arias Ticket [LA PRENSA 12 Feb] N 9
Briefs: New Independent Movement; Ortega Publishes Book N 9

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Army Dismantles 'El Volcancillo' Guerrilla Camp P 1
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 13 Feb]
FDR's Ungo Outlines Provisional Goverment Plan P 1
[Caracas EL NACIONAL 5 Feb]

GUATEMALA

U.S. Citizen, Guatemalan Wife Found Dead P 3

HONDURAS

Reina Brothers Organize Faction Within PLH P 4
Commentator Views New Faction P 4

NICARAGUA

Commentary Sees Chance for U.S.-USSR Accord P 5
CEMA Group Arrives To Help Draft Plans, Projects P 6
1,600 Student Teachers To Train in Cuba P 6
Ministry Criticizes Honduran Stance on Refugees P 6
FRG Reduces Number of Cooperating Experts P 7
French Ambassador Blanca Concludes Visit P 7
Iranian Ambassador on Economic, Political Ties P 8
Borge Leaves for Writer's Funeral in Paris P 8
Carrion Discusses Military, Political Issues P 8
[BARRICADA 6 Feb]
Politicians Discuss Elections, National Scene P 11
MAP-ML Applies for Membership in State Council P 12
Workers Strike at San Antonio Sugar Mill P 12
Anti-Sandinists Displayed at News Conference P 13
FDN Reportedly Seeks Alliance With Pastora [San Jose] P 13

CUBA

Castro, Delegation Arrive in Moscow for Funeral Q 1
Castro Pays Respects Q 1
Chernenko's Appointment Noted Q 1
Hart Davalos Leaves Moscow After Culture Day Q 2
BOHEMIA Reproduces Castro NEWSWEEK Interview Q 2
USSR Trade Minister Signs Accord, Receives Medal Q 2
Hungarian Party's Szuros Arrives on Visit Q 3
Cabrisas Meets With Japanese Business Leader Q 3
ICRT Welcomes Spanish TV, Radio Director General Q 3
Efforts of Communication Workers in Angola Cited Q 3
Fernandez Calls for Peaceful Resolution in C.A. Q 3
[Caracas EL NACIONAL 4 Feb]
Commentary on 'Aggression' Against Nicaragua Q 4
Salvadoran Archbishop Condemns Recent Murders Q 5
More Guatemalan Refugees Arrive in Mexico Q 5
Nicaraguan Education Programs To Be Completed Q 6
Reshuffle of Presidency in Panama Noted Q 6

Ayacucho Mayor Calls for Town Meeting in Peru Q 6
Mobilization Against Meeting Charged Q 7
Media Carry Contradictory Reports Q 7
Armed Groups Attack Police Stations in Peru Q 7
Grenadian Youth Leader on U.S. Intervention Q 8
Former Grenadian Diplomat on Caribbean Affairs Q 8

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Five Labor Unions Join 'March Against Hunger' R 1
[LISTIN DIARIO 5 Feb]

CARIBBEAN

BAHAMAS

Pindling, Other Officials Booed Outside House [THE TRIBUNE 7 Feb] S 1

BARBADOS

Controversy Grows Over U.S. Medical School S 1
BAMP President Comments S 1
Daily Voices Concern S 3

JAMAICA

Seaga Says Difficult Year Ahead for Economy S 4

GUYANA

Reid Optimistic on Resolving Venezuelan Dispute T 1
[Caracas EL NACIONAL 3 Feb]
Marxist Leader Jagan on Venezuela's Lusinchi T 1
Court Orders Police To Produce Tennassee T 2
Agro-Industrial Agreements Signed With Brazil T 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister on Dispute With Venezuela V 1

PERU

Arrest Warrant Issued Against 26 Policemen V 1

PRESIDENT TO SPEAK ON FALKLANDS ISSUE SOON

PY131619 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1308 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Feb (NA) -- Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez this morning indicated that President Raul Alfonsin will not address the nation on the Malvinas issue today. Lopez was asked about a report published today by a morning daily that the chief executive will address the nation today to virtually answer the British proposal concerning the South Atlantic conflict. The presidential spokesman confirmed, however, that Alfonsin will brief the nation on the situation of the Malvinas issue sometime this week.

Speech Previewed

PY131916 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Relay from Government House]

[Text] [in progress]... some newspapers this morning. It is believed that in his message to the nation the president will make new proposals to find a durable solution to the Argentine-British conflict. It has been learned that in his speech the president will not take into account the recent British proposal, which he regards as inadequate and unrealistic. Instead, he is going to insist on the need for both parties to seek rapprochement through the United Nations.

Let us note that the Argentine Government has received suggestions from British Labour MP's who want to come to Buenos Aires to hold talks on the Malvinas archipelago. Let us also note that a source here at Government House has said that in his speech President Alfonsin will go beyond what he said in Venezuela; that is, he will propose ideas that will force the British Government to hold talks with Argentina on the Malvinas, without touching the sovereignty issue, in order to obtain the lifting of the exclusion zone.

UK FALKLANDS PROPOSAL TERMED 'INTERESTING'

PY132256 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1956 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 13 Feb (NA) -- A high-ranking official source today reported that the British proposal for the resumption of talks over the Malvinas Islands "is interesting" and that the answer to be given to Great Britain over the next few days "will be constructive." Nevertheless, the source reiterated that the Argentine reply will insist on the need to end the exclusion zone that Great Britain imposed around the islands in April 1982.

Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said recently that the answer to the British initiative might be made known this week.

According to the source, the British proposal includes seven points dealing with the resumption of bilateral relations in economic, financial, commercial, and cultural areas.

The source reported that the British proposal, handed over to Argentina on 26 January 1984, includes the following topics:

1. Removal of the bodies of Argentine soldiers who died during the war.

2. If no agreement is reached on the above topic, the relatives of dead soldiers will be allowed to visit the graves.

3. Resumption of flights between Buenos Aires and London, with the same schedule that was operational before the war.

4. Resumption of trade, with the possibility of promoting it above the levels at which it was before the war.

5. A topic dealing with financial matters. Even though the source gave no details, it is understood that this point involves the Argentine foreign debt owed to British creditors.

6. Resumption of scientific and cultural exchanges.

7. And, an improvement in the level of diplomatic relations. Argentine interests are now being taken care of by the Brazilian Embassy in London, while British interests in Argentina are being handled by the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires. This "improvement" in diplomatic relations would involve the designation of "senior" officials in London and Buenos Aires to take care of each other's interests, the source explained.

The executive branch has reportedly instructed the Foreign Ministry -- which is now working on a formal answer -- to stress that the British proposal is "interesting." However, the answer will insist on the need that the exclusion zone be lifted, an issue President Alfonsin referred to during his recent trip to Caracas.

UK S. ATLANTIC 'ACTS OF PROVOCATION' DENOUNCED

PY140028 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2355 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Feb (TELAM) -- Argentine UN Ambassador Carlos Muniz today presented a note to the UN Security Council denouncing new acts of provocation by British planes against Argentine fishing boats outside the exclusion zone which the United Kingdom has arbitrarily and unilaterally established and which the Argentine Government has rejected.

The document released by San Martin Palace states that one incident occurred on 5 November at 1200 GMT, at 51 degrees 59 seconds latitude, 63 degrees 39 seconds longitude, when a four-engine Royal Air Force plane, registration No 205, overflew the fishing boat "Api IV," owned by the Siamar enterprise. The plane overflew the ship twice. The second case occurred on 24 December at 1542 GMT, at 51 degrees 30 seconds latitude, 63 degrees 48 seconds longitude, when two British Phantoms overflew the fishing boat "Atilio Malvagni." The planes, which overflew the ship twice, were flying as low as 100 meters above the ship.

It has been reported that Ambassador Muniz requested that the note be considered a document of the UN Security Council.

MARTINEZ, SOVIET AMBASSADOR MAKE STATEMENTS

PY131620 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Feb 84

[From Government House]

[Excerpts] Vice President Victor Martinez left Ezeiza airport for Moscow at 1400 yesterday on a regular flight via Frankfurt. He is expected back next Saturday. Dr Martinez was accompanied by Foreign Affairs Secretary Elsa Kelly, Senate Presidency Coordinating Secretary Luis Caeiro, and San Luis Senator Oraldo Britos.

The vice president said that the approval of the union reorganization bill by the Chamber of Deputies was significant event. He added that the union law is totally necessary to guarantee the total exercise of union rights by all the people. He also labeled as deplorable the conditions under which the bill was discussed in the Chamber of Deputies.

Martinez said that some people have not yet learned how to behave either inside or outside Congress. He was alluding to the attitude of party groups which were present in the Chamber of Deputies during the debate. He said that these incidents will by no means occur in the Senate, adding that although congressmen and the people have the right to express either their approval or disapproval of bills, they must respect the national Congress. Martinez said that the Senate could introduce some modifications to the Radical proposal on union reorganizations. He added that although the Senate has unanimously approved most of the bills submitted by the Chamber of Deputies, it has introduced some important amendments to some bills and it could also do it in this case.

The vice president made these and other statements to the press at Ezeiza airport shortly before departing for Moscow, where he will head the Argentine delegation to the funeral of Soviet Premier Yuriy Andropov, which will take place on Tuesday. The vice president regretted the fact that his first visit to the USSR should take place upon the death of a prominent worldwide statesman.

For his part, the Soviet ambassador to Argentina, who said farewell to Martinez and his entourage at Ezeiza airport, also made statements to the press. He said that the Soviet internal policy, which seeks to increase production and the country's defense capabilities and to improve the peoples' well-being as much as possible, would not be changed due to Premier Andropov's death. As for Soviet foreign policy, Oleg Kvasov asserted that all possible efforts would continue to be made to prevent a nuclear war. Kvasov concluded by stating that one of the most important events in Argentina-Soviet relations, the meeting of the Argentine-Soviet mixed commission to analyze economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries, will take place by midyear. He expressed his hope that the meeting will be an important landmark in bilateral relations.

NICARAGUAN RECONSTRUCTION MINISTER ARRIVES

PY131719 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2228 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Feb (DYN) -- Nicarguan Reconstruction Minister Edmundo Jarkin stated upon arriving in Buenos Aires that his government is interested in increasing economic ties with Argentina, "because we are determined to deepen the economic interdependence between Latin American countries." In statements made at Ezeiza International Airport, Jarkin said that he was bringing a proposal in this regard which he would submit to President Raul Alfonsin's government. However, he denied that the expansion of the $15-million loan granted to Managua by the previous Argentine military regime had been discussed with the constitutional authorities. After expressing his interest in me meeting with Argentine economic authorities, Jarkin said that trade between the two countries could be carried out through what he called a "two way street," because Nicaragua exports some products which Argentina imports from various countries. Jarkin concluded by stating: "We are very pleased with the trade carried out with Argentina over the past 3 years."

GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST EXTRADITION OF MONTONEROS

PY121925 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 12 Feb 84 p 13

[Text] (NA) -- The government is preparing to request the extradition of Montonero guerrilla leaders Mario Firmenich and Fernando Vaca Narvaja, currently living in Brazil, official sources said yesterday. According to reports, the Argentine Government has confirmed that "Firmenich lives on Sadock Street Number 120, Apartment 203, Ipanema" and that Vaca Narvaja has his home on Rua Arao da Torre, only two or three streets away.

POLISH CARDINAL GLEMP TO VISIT IN MARCH

PY130221 Paris AFP in Spanish 1405 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Feb (AFP) -- Today it was learned in Buenos Aires from well-informed sources that Polish Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp will visit Argentina the first week of March. Cardinal Glemp will arrive in the northern Province of Misiones (located 1,100 km from Buenos Aires) on 1 March from Curitiba, the capital of Parana State, Brazil. After visiting the Iguazu Falls, he will enter Argentina through Puerto Iguazu, located in the northern tip of Misiones Province. Cardinal Glemp will then travel on 2 March to Posadas, the capital of Misiones, where he is to meet with members of the Polish community. Then he will travel to Buenos Aires.

90 'NO NAME' GRAVES FOUND; OAS REPORT 'BLOCKED'

PY102100 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 10 Feb 84 p 7

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- There are at least 300 corpses buried in NN (no name) graves in the northern Buenos Aires suburb of Grand Bourg, it was discovered yesterday during an investigation ordered by San Martin Federal Judge Hugo Gandara. The court inquiry, begun yesterday at the local cemetery, has already produced seven corpses, but is expected to continue until the end of this week. There are approximately 90 NN graves, each of which apparently contains an average of three and a minimum of five corpses in an area 45 by 10 metres, court sources said.

Meanwhile, Emilio Mignone, president of the Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) accused Roberto Monti, the Organization of American States (OAS) representative in Argentina, of having blocked the distribution here of the report on Argentina produced by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission in 1979. Monti "destroyed all of the copies without putting them on sale, as is the norm with all OAS reports," he said.

Mignone, who was accompanied at a press conference by Luis Navalesi, an editor who yesterday put 5,000 copies of the report on sale, explained that Monti is a retired Argentine Air Force officer and that OAS regulations forbid representatives to be nationals of the country where they are stationed. He charged that Monti was retained in the post as "acting" representative for eight years by OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila, another Argentine whom Mignone called an "accomplice of the military regime."

GORDON, SON ARRESTED; ARMS, DOCUMENTS SEIZED

PY101449 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1058 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Cordoba, 10 Feb (TELAM) -- Federal police agents early this morning arrested Anibal Gordon, whom Patricio Kelly has accused of several crimes, including the killing of Marcelo Dupont, who ran an advertising agency. In the course of an operation that involved 100 policemen, Anibal Gordon and his son were arrested in Serranita village, 53 km from this provincial capital. Gordon and his son surrendered without offering any resistance and were found to be in possession of military arms and important documents.

The prisoners are now being held at the Federal Police station awaiting Federal Judge Jose Nicasio Dibur, who is scheduled to arrive in this city at approximately 0900 local time.

In August last year, Guillermo Patricio Kelly blamed Gordon for his kidnapping and revealed that the latter was planning to kill Raul Alfonsin, Federal Judge Oscar Mario Salvi, and two military officers on active duty.

GOVERNMENT FOREIGN DEBT DECREE DRAWS PROTEST

PY131923 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] At the end of a general meeting held this morning, the employees of the Bolivian Central Bank decided to start a 24-hour stoppage today, Monday, to protest the government decision authorizing the state to take over the foreign debts of the private banks. (Miguel Quintanilla), secretary general of the Union of Central Bank employees, said that the government would be asked to explain its decision. He also said that a proposal has been made to the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] to take measures to annul the government decree, which favors the country's private banks.

The latest decision of the government to have the state take over the foreign debt of private banks has been termed a violation of the agreements reached between the government and the COB Negotiating Commission. This was stated to Radio Panamericana by (Armando Morales Gomez), president of the COB economic commission. He added that the government decree is tantamount to the issuing of promissory notes, a practice that has been questioned by the COB.

The bank employees of the country are again threatening to strike, this time to protest the latest decree regarding the foreign debt of the private banks which will be taken over by the state.

MNR LEADER OPPOSES GAS SALE TO BRAZIL

PY111855 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Abel Ayoroa Argandona, one of the top leaders of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement, has said that his party is categorically opposed to the export of gas, which is a nonrenewable asset of the country. Therefore, he said, it objects to the gas sale to Brazil. Ayoroa Argandona said:

[Begin recording] We maintain that the natural wealth (?should satisfy) our own needs rather than be exported, particularly when the terms are so unsatisfactory [words indistinct]. [end recording]

SEARCH ORDERED FOR GARCIA MEZA, ARCE GOMEZ

PY131628 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Interior Ministry officials have ordered that investigations be initiated to find out if Luis Garcia Meza and Luis Arce Gomez are in the country. According to reports by reliable sources, the investigation will try to establish where the two former officers are.

As has been reported, news from Buenos Aires indicates that the two officers, who cooperated in interrupting the democratic process on 17 July 1980, are now in Bolivia and reportedly entered the country after the Argentine Government ordered their arrest for questioning.

U.S. SAID WILLING TO NEGOTIATE ON STEEL IMPORTS

PY102130 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Feb 84 p 29

[Excerpt] The U.S. Government is willing to start negotiations regarding the Brazilian proposal that the United States suspend customs surcharges on carbon-steel imports and set an import quota instead. This was communicated to the Brazilian Embassy in Washington, and the embassy conveyed it to Itamaraty immediately.

According to Itamaraty Economic Department chief Proenca Rosa, the U.S. Government agreed to discuss the Brazilian proposal on the condition that the surcharges will be maintained until the negotiations, which will begin next week, are concluded.

In the opinion of several diplomatic observers, the U.S. gesture can be construed as a sign of good will toward Brazilian foreign policy, a sign coming 48 hours after Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro handed an aide-memoire to Secretary of State George Shultz in Brasilia. The aide-memoire contained a request for a solution to the exports of carbon steel, shoes, and textiles into the U.S. market.

Finance Official on Steel Quota

PY101145 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] (Tarcisio Marciano da Rocha), a Finance Ministry international adviser, has noted that Brazil will sign an agreement establishing a quota on Brazilian steel exports to the United States only if the U.S. Government agrees to buy 1.2 million tons of steel this year.

SOCIAL SECURITY MINISTER IN MOSCOW FOR FUNERAL

PY132340 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Welfare and Social Security Minister Jarbas Passarinho in Moscow today attended the wake for Yuriy Andropov, former president of the Soviet Union. Passarinho heads the Brazilian delegation to Andropov's funeral.

Minister Passarinho met today in Moscow with the head of social security affairs in the Soviet Union, and next Thursday he will meet with the French social affairs minister in Paris.

This information was made public today in Brasilia by the press office of the Welfare and Social Security Ministry, explaining that Minister Passarinho's objective is to exchange ideas about the social security policies in France and the Soviet Union.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES SENEGALESE FOREIGN MINISTER

PY132352 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] President Joao Figueiredo this afternoon received Senegalese Foreign Affairs Minister Moustapha Niasse. Minister Niasse arrived in Brasilia this morning to participate in the opening of working sessions of the Brazilian-Senegalese Joint Commission.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO SPEAKS IN SANTA CRUZ

PY111455 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Feb 84 p 6

["Text" of President Joao Figueiredo's speech at a dinner given for Bolivian President Siles Zuazo in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, on 8 February]

[Excerpts] Mr President: The fraternal welcome given to us in this historic and hospitable city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra moves us to express our great appreciation for the generous people of Bolivia, its government, and Your Excellency.

Mr President, determined to overcome specific and pressing problems, the developing countries are nevertheless aware of the worsening of the international situation. The increase in tension, whether on a world scale or in localized areas, cannot but thwart the aspirations of countries and peoples whose first concern is to guarantee peace and stability. Central America is today a painful and stark example of that reality. We see there fraternal peoples, who once participated in drafting a set of ideas for coexistence and solidarity, involved in dangerous confrontations. Instead of progress and prosperity, situations are being created that can lead that part of the continent to a conflict of grave proportions.

Brazil has time and time again reaffirmed that conflicts must be solved through peaceful means, through negotiations inspired by the political will to overcome these differences, negotiations that contain effective dialogue and ensure conditions for substantive agreements. Agreements that are acceptable to the parties involved and that deserve recognition by the international community. The strengthening of political cooperation in Latin America can greatly contribute to that objective. The efforts the Contadora Group exert in favor of peace and stability in the Central American isthmus have an ethical content as well as an authentically Latin American significance, and the value of such efforts is being recognized by all nations. These efforts aimed at promoting dialogue and understanding where there are tensions and conflicts nurture the certainty that it is possible to transform fear into hope, confrontation into cooperation, and war and misery into peace and progress. Latin America has demonstrated that it is not lacking in determination to move along that path. Under the Treaty of Amazonian Cooperation and the River Plate Basin Treaty, Brazil and Bolivia have given an example of our countries' ability to work on concrete projects of cooperation in specific regions or given sectors of human activity.

Mr President, affected in an acute and disproportionate manner by the economic and financial crisis which afflicts the world these days, the developing countries continue to see that their appeals for a revamped international economic system are ignored. These appeals, resting on a realistic appraisal of the structures of international trade and finance that now exists, take into account permanent interests of the community of nations. At a time when short-sighted practices prevail, our countries are witnessing the worsening of their internal situations and the loss of hard-won gains. The need for serious adjustments that take the present international situation into account cannot be ignored. However, it is impossible to transfer upon developing countries the greater part of the butden of readjusting the international economy without running into serious risks. If the interdependence among the nations of the world is to be genuine, it should be extended to all areas, so that interdependence can be a factor in worldwide progress, not a mere transfer of the cost of the present crisis. In addition to other consequences, even trade among developing countries not only stagnated but decreased. Thus, an important factor for energizing and complementing our economies has been minimized.

Latin America is fully aware of its difficulties, its needs, and its potential. The commendable initiative on the part of the president of Ecuador, calling for a meeting where our countries could examine the bases for a common response to the crisis which afflicts us, brought the continent together in Quito in January. A great number of measured proposals were made there. We tried to come up with not only a strategy for confrontation but with a political analysis capable of putting the economic, financial, and commercial problems facing Latin America into proper proportion. The formulas that were proposed -- notably those calling for strengthening intraregional cooperation, adopting concrete measures to stop and overcome the critical drop in the level of trade among Latin American countries, and furthering regional integration -- will make it possible to improve regional trade and growth as an important step in facing up to the present crisis.

I invite all of you to make a toast to the prosperity of the Bolivian nation, to the strengthening of the ties of fraternal friendship which unite our peoples, and to the personal health and happiness of Your Excellency and Mrs Siles Zuazo.

MILITARY HEAD CONDEMNS DIRECT ELECTION PRESSURES

PY102032 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Brigadier Waldir Vasconcelos, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, in Rio de Janeiro yesterday condemned the "excessive pressures" being exerted by the campaign for reinstatement of direct presidential elections, adding that the personality of individuals and the independence of institutions must be respected. Vasconcelos admitted, however, that direct elections will be reinstated, "because they are a republican tradition in Brazil." In his opinion, the campaign launched by the opposition is valid, because "political manifestations are natural in a democratic regime."

ARMY SAYS MILITARY UNCONCERNED ABOUT SUCCESSION

PY132320 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] The Army's Social Communication Center today distributed the following press note:

The Army's Social Communication Center informs the public that reports carried today, 13 February 1984, in several newspapers stating that the leadership of the Armed Forces, particularly the Army, is concerned about the presidential succession, are baseless. These reports are no more than speculation and are intended to confuse the public and to create a climate of unrest. The Army is devoted to its professional duties, and it is united, alert, and ready to fulfill its constitutional function. This time is appropriate to make it clear that no one is authorized to speak on behalf of the Army minister, except his spokesman.

COLUMNIST SAYS MILITARY FEARS DIRECT ELECTIONS

PY140228 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Feb 84 p 2

[By Ricardo Noblat, JORNAL DO BRASIL regional editor in Brasilia]

[Excerpts] The government, the PDS [Social Democrat Party] Directorate, and the Armed Forces leadership are becoming more and more frightened by the mounting campaign for the restoration of direct presidential elections. The PDS shows clear signs that it is beginning to be receptive to the sentiment of more than 80 percent of Brazilians. And Vice President Aureliano Chaves' sharing of that sentiment suggests that the approval by Congress of the Dante de Oliveira amendment reestablishing direct presidential elections has ceased to be absurd and is now possible -- although not probable.

President Figueiredo is aware that something must be done to stop the strongest threat, which has so far been raised to his plans for a slow and gradual democratic liberalization. But he still does not know what to do. Figueiredo is studying with the military ministers alternatives capable of exorcizing the ghost of direct presidential elections which was kept in the regime's closet and which he helped to bring out with statements he made in Africa. He knows that it does not help to pretend that the ghost is still in the closet, and he also knows that the most important military commanders prefer to see the closet door closed -- at least for a while longer.

Aureliano Chaves' intention of advising his followers to approve the constitutional amendment reestablishing direct elections right now did not sit well in military circles.

It remains to be seen whether the period of arbitrary rule which began in 1964 has taught something to the country's politicians; whether it has at least taught them to be sensitive to what goes on in the hearts and minds of their fellow countrymen.

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE ON DIRECT ELECTIONS FEARED

PY110035 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Feb 84 p 3

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo -- Governor Paulo Montoro fears that leaders of the Communist Party of Brazil and the Workers Party can gain control over the movement for direct presidential elections. For this reason, he will not authorize any more rallies or marches in Sao Paulo until he can separate the radicals of those parties from the Sao Paulo Committee for Direct Elections, which is conducting the campaign in the state.

This information has been conveyed to security organs in Sao Paulo, as well as to higher security organs in Brasilia.

In the next few days, Public Security Secretary Michel Temmer will go to the Ibirapuera General Headquarters to communicate to General Sergio de Ary Pires, commander of the 2d Army, that steps are being taken to separate from the campaign's command members of the Communist Party of Brazil, and followers of the Workers Party's president, Luis Inacio da Silva.

COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTS NEW CENTRAL COMMITTEE

PY110025 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Sao Paulo -- The Brazilian Communist Party (PCB) held its seventh congress on 10 January in Sao Paulo, and expelled former Secretary General Luis Prestes. It elected a new Central Committee, which was installed on 28 January in a meeting held in the offices of the newspaper VOZ DA UNIDADE, the party's semiofficial paper. Seventy percent of the new Central Committee is made up of new members.

Party Secretary General Giocondo Dias was re-elected. Three federal deputies for the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party were elected as members of the new committee: Roberto Freire, Alberto Goldman, and Marcelo Gato. The last sessions of the seventh congress were held in the offices of the newspaper VOZ DA UNIDADE on Dom Jose Gaspar Square. In the office of this newspaper the Federal Police arrested 97 persons 13 months ago, charging them with trying to organize the party's congress.

ECONOMY MINISTER ON U.S. PROTECTIONISM, DEFICITS

PY132054 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Economy Minister Andres Passicot, who returned to the country today, voiced his satisfaction over the results of the talks held with bankers, businessmen, and experts in Miami, where he took part in a seminar sponsored by Miami University.

The minister was asked whether the subject of protectionist measures implemented by developed countries on imports of raw materials and Latin American goods was discussed. Minister Passicot replied that this was a very complex problem since the protectionist measures are not being implemented by the U.S. Government, but by enterprises and probably by the labor unions.

The minister also referred to the U.S. trade balance deficit, which could affect our country. He stated that the U.S. deficit is cause for concern -- not only the foreign trade deficit but also the fiscal deficit -- since it has a direct impact on interest rates, and high interest rates are, obviously, harmful for Chile.

Passicot was asked what stance Chile is going to adopt in view of the protectionist measures. He said that Chile's stance has not varied for many years and that our country has always been in favor of developing trade and doing away with protectionist measures. Therefore, he concluded, I do not think there will be any changes is this regard.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON 'REFUGEES' INSIDE NUNCIATURE

PY131930 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has confirmed President Pinochet's position regarding the refugees in the Apostolic Nunciature. Minister Jaime del Valle said that the government juridically cannot make a decision against the independence of the administration of justice in Chile. With these remarks, he confirmed the statement made by the chief of state last Saturday regarding the impossibility of granting safe-conducts to the four subversives who sought refuge in the Apostolic Nunciature in Santiago.

Asked if Pinochet's statement is an official and definitive decision of the government on this case, Foreign Minister del Valle said that the president was very clear in saying that he cannot grant the safe-conducts because the administration of justice prevents him from doing so. The minister added that from this point of view the decision is official, because the statement was made by the president.

Minister del Valle explained that only the government has the right to grant this type of authorization, and that the situation can only change by an order from the court ruling on the case. The minister added, however, that in this case there would be no safe-conducts but an unconditional release of those people. The minister went on to say that the court could confirm the government's charges against the extremists in Apostolic Nunciature or it could drop them. He added: I doubt this very much because the evidence we have is quite conclusive.

Del Valle noted that there are other alternatives for solving this problem, alternatives that have been reported to Nuncio Angelo Solano. Del Valle said that Pinochet's statements only referred to the impossibility of granting the safe-conducts requested by Pope John Paul II. Concerning the pope's request, which advocated humanitarian reasons for granting safe-conducts to the terrorists, Del Valle said that the government response was the most appropriate. The juridical point cannot be overridden in order to give a humanitarian response, he stated. Even the president has to abide by the laws of the country.

Del Valle concluded by saying that he has kept in touch with Santiago Nuncio Monsignor Angelo Solano to report to him on the studies the government is conducting on this case.

TERRORISTS ATTACK CARABINEROS GARRISON

PY131730 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpt] A terrorist commando attacked a Carabineros garrison in this capital with machine guns. The attack took place on the Teniente Merino Carabineros Precinct in the Pudahuel community. This information was released in an official communique by the Carabineros General Secretariat.

The communique says that the terrorist attack took place today at about 0705. A terrorist commando made up of five subversives attacked the Carabineros precinct on El Arado Passage near San Pablo and Victoria Streets. The attackers used 9-mm automatic weapons. The terrorists apparently used a bus of the (Tovalaba-Las Rejas) line. attack was repelled by Carabineros, and no one was injured. The post had several windows broken and bullet marks on the wall. Once repelled, the attackers escaped, leaving behind a plastic bag with two powerful homemade bombs inside. A Chilean flag with a sign of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left on it was found. The police are carrying out an investigation to try to find the terrorists responsible for the attack.

'SUBVERSIVES' ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP POWER LINE

PY131626 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Subversives have exploded a bomb in a high tension tower in the Pudahuel neighborhood in Santiago. However, the explosion did not cause any considerable damage and did not affect the electrical supply in that area. The explosion took place in tower No 16-2 at the 11,400 block of Mapocho Street. It created some concern among the population.

EL TENIENTE MINE OFFICE ROBBED; RIGHTISTS BLAMED

PY140003 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Relay from Rancagua by (Benito Libardo)]

[Text] For the second time in the past 3 months the El Teniente Mine office on 573 (Hueras) Street, Rancagua, has been robbed. On the first occasion documents and other assets were stolen, and the building was set on fire. Late Saturday night a group of antisocial individuals stole important documents and photographs of the last protest demonstrations held in Rancagua and in other parts of the country as well as a tape recorder that also belonged to the El Teniente Mine branch.

In view of this regrettable event, Eugenio Lopez Lopez, president of the labor union, informed the police investigation department in Rancagua, where he was summoned to appear again at 1400 to confirm his charges before the lower criminal court. This information was disclosed to Radio Cooperativa by Lopez himself.

[Begin Lopez recording] Once again last Saturday the El Teniente mine office was the target of a new theft, similar to that which took place on 18 November 1983 when documents were stolen and the building was set on fire. Now that we have made an evaluation of what was stolen, we have found that they mainly took valuable documents. Among these documents are union leader Rodolfo Seguel's memoirs, [words indistinct], the minutes of the latest meeting held by the National Workers Command in Punete Alto, and other documents [words indistinct] which were very important.

The photograph we had collected to make an album of the last demonstrations which took place in Rancagua, the meetings, the marches and [words indistinct] San Bernardo, clearly showed the faces of those persons who took part in them. Therefore, it is perfectly obvious that this event was politically motivated and that it was carried out by a very well organized group. On 18 November, I already pointed out whom I suspected -- and now I have the same feeling -- it was carried out by a very well organized extreme rightist group that seeks to frighten our union, but they will not achieve their objective because stealing our documents will not scare us. We will continue our labor union activities and defend our workers' interests. [end recording]

CHILEAN, ARGENTINE YOUTHS MEET ON BORDER

PY132150 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Relay from Coihaique]

[Text] Good afternoon, very special moments were experienced yesterday afternoon at landmark 45 that, geographically speaking, divides Argentina and Chile. The meeting advocating peace held at this point by Argentine and Chilean youths was organized and planned by the Argentine Radical Civic Union [UCR] youth and, on the Chilean side, by the Regional Unity Movement [MUR] and the Aisen Democratic Youth.

The two Chilean groups, which hold antagonistic principles and actions, previously met with Aisen Bishop Msgr Bernardo Casaro to jointly carry out the initiative. However, during the meeting at the border with the Argentine youths, minor incidents took place prompting the exit of one of the MUR leaders, who cut off a loudspeaker while an Argentine representative was speaking. Fortunately, this incident was overcome by the good will of the other leaders, who proceeded with the scheduled program.

During the meeting, Aisen Bishop Msgr Casaro and an Argentine priest held mass during which the crowd prayed for peace, for the good will of government leaders to carry out the final stages of the mediation, and to thank the Holy Father for having managed a peaceful agreement between brother nations. An the end of the meeting, the UCR leaders, headed by Chubut Province Deputy (Antonio Godino), invited the Aisen Democratic Youth to Argentine territory to share a barbecue cooked by the workmen of neighboring farms. Afterward, the youths returned to their respective homes.

FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS EUROPEAN TOUR IN ROME

PA132025 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez will carry a message from the Latin American and Caribbean countries on his official visit to Rome, Italy, which he began today. Foreign Minister Valencia will tour several industrialized European countries, in an attempt to get help from the Old Continent for the economic problems affecting our region. Today he will make his first contacts in Rome. He will also visit the FRG, Belgium, France, the UK, and Spain, as well as meet with members of the EEC.

Valencia flew to Europe from Santiago, Chile, after attending the conference of foreign ministers of the South Pacific Permanent Commission, together with Colombia, Peru, and Chile. Valencia has been asked by Ecuadoran President Osvaldo Hurtado to personally deliver a note and copies of the conclusions of the Latin American Economic Conference held in Quito last month.

PRESIDENTIAL VOTING CONDUCTED IN 6 PROVINCES

PA131756 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Social Democrat Rodrigo Borja and Conservative Leon Febres Cordero have maintained their positions as favorite presidential candidates after elections were repeated in 11 Ecuadoran localities. According to preliminary results, the two candidates -- who will go to runoff elections on 6 May -- obtained percentages similar to those of the 29 January elections.

Some 170,000 Ecuadoreans who were unable to vote 2 weeks ago due to disturbances or irregularities in the organization of the elections yesterday went to the polls.

Even though the number of voters yesterday was small compared to the national electoral census of 3,700,000 voters, it could have altered Borja's narrow lead of 20,000 votes over Leon Febres Cordero. However, the electorate maintained the pattern of 15 days ago, and the Social Democratic candidate gained only a slight advantage over Febres Cordero. According to preliminary reports, the difference in the number of votes that the two candidates received was less than 1 percent. Here are the unofficial results of yesterday's elections:

Borja 29,953 votes and Febres Cordero 29,778 votes; a difference of less than 200 votes. As on 29 January, these two candidates received more than 55 percent of the votes, and the other candidates -- from a total of nine presidential candidates -- received very few votes, representing one-digit percentages.

Yesterday's voting took place at 603 polling places in 33 precincts, in 6 of the 20 provinces in Ecuador, a country of 8 million inhabitants.

OPPOSITION LEADERS HOLD RALLY, MEETING IN PARIS

Declaration Issued at Rally

PY131508 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] Paris, 11 Feb (EFE) -- Approximately 100 people today demonstrated in Paris to promote a struggle for democracy in Paraguay. The meeting was opened by writer Augusto Roa Bastos. Participating in the rally were members of the Paraguayan opposition including the president of the National Accord, Euclides Acevedo, Paraguayans living in exile, and several French personalities. The rally ended this afternoon with the unanimous approval of a declaration calling for democracy in Paraguay.

The document labeled the "Paris declaration" emphasizes the need to express a common will in an effort to obtain the release of Paraguayan political prisoners and the return of people living in exile. The participants also proposed the signing of a resolution to be presented at the United Nations condemning the state of siege in force in Paraguay, and proposing that international jurists meet in Buenos Aires to study the situation of human rights in that country.

Spokesmen of the Paraguayan delegation told EFE that the meeting's participants favored establishing dialogue between the opposition to the Stroessner regime in Paraguay and the opposition in exile. The same sources said that the participants expressed gratitude to French officials who had conveyed their solidarity in the struggle for democracy in Paraguay as a result of meetings held with politicians close to President Francois Mitterrand.

Director's note: Who does Euclides Acevedo think he is to make such declarations? Paraguayan democracy is based on 97 percent of the Paraguayan voters. No one has the right to join alleged democrats to try to create confusion in a country that lives in peace. Signed HDD [Humberto Dominguez Dibb]

Meet With French Official

PY131529 Paris AFP in Spanish 2225 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Paris, 12 Feb (AFP) -- Representatives of various Paraguayan groups opposed to General Alfredo Stroessner's regime met in Paris over the weekend. The meeting was presided over by Euclides Acevedo, leader of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party (PFR) and president of the National Accord.

The meeting was attended by writer Augusto Roa Bastos, Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA) Vice President Domingo Laino, and by members of the Communist Party, the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO) and the Paraguayan Confederation of Workers [CPT] in exile.

At the end of the meeting, the participants unanimously adopted the Paris declaration, in which they expressed among other things their heartfelt acknowledgement of the true democrats who are struggling within Paraguay to install a democratic and pluralistic government. TTey also expressed their decision to increase their efforts to obtain the release of all political prisoners and the immediate return to Paraguay of all exiles.

One of the purposes of the meeting was for the participants to contribute to the broadening of the National Accord (PRF, PLRA, MOPOCO and Christian Democratic Party) program.

Aside from the meeting, Acevedo and Laino were received at the presidential Elisee Palace by French Presidential Secretary General Jean Louis Bianco, with whom they discussed the Paraguayan situation. The two Paraguayan leaders conveyed to Bianco their desire for France to cooperate with the Paraguayan democratization process. Acevedo said that Bianco promised to review the loans granted by France to Paraguay and to see that they (?are used) to develop the country and not to institutionalize corruption.

The opposition members also held a meeting that they rated as very cordial with Nicole Bourdillat, international affairs secretary of the French Socialist Party.

During the meeting, Roa Bastos said that the peace that the Paraguayan regime boasts about is secured through internal measures imposed in times of war [state of siege], which is against the constitution and which is characteristic of despotic regimes.

After recalling the overthrow of the Spanish, Bolivian, and Argentine authoritarian regimes, Roa Bastos expressed his belief that it is also possible to oust the Paraguayan dictatorship. He said that "political time is an ally of the oppressed people and it acts against dictatorships," adding that "the Paraguayan dictatorship is already showing signs of fear in the face of the agony of its termination."

The various participants in the meeting denounced the enforcement of the state of siege for the past 30 years, adding that 150,000 people have been imprisoned during this time. Acevedo said that Stroessner's regime, which he described as the oldest and most forgotten Latin American dictatorship, is characterized by repression, corruption, and an authoritarian control over the civilian population through the Colorado Party. He also denounced U.S. support in return for free capital investments and the unconditional support of the Department of State's foreign policy.

Roa Bastos stressed, however, that the regime has gone too far and that it has met the opposition not only of the people, but also of capitalists not linked to multinational companies.

Acevedo also regretted the lack of participation of the Paraguayan opposition in social movements, stressing that there will be change only if proposals are made above and beyond the existing differences.

Acevedo said that the immediate objectives [of the National Accord] are to achieve basic means for public debates, to regain the autonomy of civilian institutions, and to fight repressive and licentious laws.

The participants in the meeting advocated an expansion of political alliances, particularly through the integration of the National Accord with unions, the peasant movement, and the Catholic Church.

An Amnesty International representative announced that a 2-month international campaign will be launched on 22 February to denounce human rights violations in Paraguay during rallies that will be held in various cities throughout the world.

PLRA COMMITTEES ABROAD PROPOSE OPPOSITION MOVES

PY131722 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Feb 84 p 13

[Text] The committees of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] abroad have met in Posadas, Argentina. At the conclusion of the meeting a document was released evaluating the political situation, and making recommendations such as "struggling tirelessly for the restoration of the state of law and the immediate repeal of repressive Laws No 209 and 294, which are instruments for systematic persecution of any citizen disagreeing with the current regime."

The document also "strongly condemns the false political opening sponsored by the regime that is governing the country under a state of siege as a real instrument for repression, torture, and disappearnces in Paraguay." The document adds that "in view of some political relaxation we must take advantage of this political elbow room to increase the activities aimed at reestablishing democracy in order to rescue the inalienable rights of the Paraguayan people in accordance with the National Constitution. We must tirelessly struggle for the restoration of the state of law." The document also "strongly repudiates the participation of minority groups in the government and demands that they withdraw their permanent support for such a nefarious regime, a support which only serves to create a false democratic image abroad, a regime which in reality is permanently keeping the Paraguayan people subdued. We also condemn those who collaborate and who are accomplices of the regime."

PARTY LEADERS ON TALKS WITH MILITARY, ELECTIONS

PY140158 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Political leaders believe that it is necessary to engage in a brief dialogue with the Armed Forces and that the measures enacted on 2 August must be lifted. After the latest statements by Lieutenant General Pedro Aranco, General Rapela, and Vice Admiral Rodolfo Invidio, politicians have agreed that now action is the only important thing.

Colorado Party Secretary General Dr Julio Maria Sanguinetti has reiterated his support for a concerted solution and has ruled out the possibility of a confrontation. He added that it is impossible to talk about consitutional amendments barely 8 months before the elections, although he admitted that some specific topics could be considered to help find a democratic solution. Blanco Party leader Carlos Julio Pereira said that the reiteration by the military that there will be elections is a healthy sign. He noted, however, that this is the time for action. When problems are not solved, words can be a waste of time, he remarked. For his part, Dr Luis Alberto Lacalle said that it was essential to know as soon as possible under what circumstances the elections scheduled for November will be held. [passage indistinct]

BUS DRIVERS STRIKE; ARMY OCCUPIES TERMINALS

PY110215 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Feb (EFE) -- Armed soldiers occupied the main bus terminals of Montevideo this afternoon, as a transportation stoppage broke out in direct challenge to the ban on labor union activities in Uruguay. Infantry and artillery battalion personnel headquartered in Montevideo, occupied the urban, suburban, and rural bus terminals with weapons in hand in an effort to ensure transportation services for the population.

Workers had gradually reduced the number of buses available, paralyzing 60 to 70 percent of transportation services. The government asked the enterprises to keep the buses on the streets, under penalty of canceling their concessions to provide transportation services. To comply with the demands of the military regime, bus owners, high-ranking personnel, and small transportation cooperatives maintained emergency shifts. This is the second strike in less than 1 month, and the third transportation stoppage, including the general strike staged on 18 January.

GEN BONIFACIO DESIGNATED NEW CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF

PY140119 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] General Ignacio Bonifacio has been designated chief of the Army Staff. Bonifacio, whose name was proposed by the Army General Command, will replace General Hector Alvarez.

SOVIET OFFICIAL SAYS USSR SUPPORTS CONTADORA

PA131527 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 5 Feb 84 p D-2

[Text] The USSR supports the Contadora Group in its search for solutions to the Central American situation.

These remarks were made by Kurban Khalilov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, after bidding President Lusinchi farewell. I am very happy that I came to view the change of command and could converse with the president about bilateral relations, the world situation, and our countries' desire for peace, he added.

He was then asked: Is there a chance trade exchange might increase?

And he answered: There is the greatest willingness, but in any case that will depend on studies to be made. Right now, I can say that Soviet-Venezuelan relations could not be better.

BULGARIAN OFFICIAL ON LUSINCHI VISIT, RELATIONS

PA110112 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p D-19

[Article by Ludmila Vinogradoff]

[Excerpts] It is customary during inaugural ceremonies for governments to extend invitations to the incoming government to strengthen existing political, economic, and cultural ties or to reactivate those which have cooled. One of the first such invitations to be issued formally and officially came from Bulgaria. Petur Tanchev, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, personally delivered a message from Bulgarian State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov to Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, inviting him to visit Bulgaria to sign a long-term agreement for cooperation in various areas of mutual interest.

"Jaime Lusinchi has been known to us Bulgarians for the past 15 years," Tanchev said, pointing out that the Bulgarian Agrarian Party and Venezuela's Democratic Action Party maintain regular contact. He added that Bulgarians, therefore, found it "perfectly natural" that "our friend Lusinchi and his party" should have won the Venezuelan elections. "We believe that Lusinchi's rise to power opens new possibilities to expand the multifaceted cooperation that exists between Venezuela and Bulgaria in different spheres, particularly in the field of agriculture, in which Bulgaria has attained a high level of development."

On the topic of agriculture, one of the priorities of the Lusinchi government program, Tanchev said that his country "is willing to cooperate with Venezuela not only in that field, but also in the fields of technology and industry."

Addressing the topic of the present status of relations, he emphasized the need to strengthen and increase them "at all levels"; hence the invitation to visit Bulgaria to achieve those goals through bilateral agreements. Lusinchi will decide on the date of the visit. Tanchev expressed the hope that it will take place this year.

Meanwhile, Bulgaria is expecting the visit of a Democratic Action parliamentary delegation, probably this year also, to strengthen ties with the Bulgarian Agrarian Party. "The two parties could help to reinforce relations between the two countries," Tanchev said.

The Bulgarian leader noted that both parties have declared themselves opposed to the arms race, in favor of detente and the self-determination of peoples, opposed to foreign intervention, and in favor of the Contadora Group peace efforts.

There are no plans to sign any bilateral agreements during the Bulgarian official's stay in Venezuela, only to establish contacts for the future. It is expected that the foreign ministers of both countries will initially exchange visits to take charge of any planned projects.

The Democratization of Latin America: A Bridge for the Socialist Countries

Tanchev believes that the growth of democratic governments in Latin America "opens new perspectives for Bulgaria and the socialist countries." He said that these countries are extremely interested in developing relations with all the countries in the Latin American region.

Bulgarians are pleased with the democratic opening -- Tanchev calls it a "wave of democratization" -- that is taking place in several Latin American countries, as well as with the Contadora Group initiative in Central America, because "we believe that those efforts and the democratic processes that have begun contribute in a general way to the policy of detente and to the dialogue between the East and the West," Tanchev said.

REPRESENTATIVES TO ANDROPOV'S FUNERAL APPOINTED

FL111330 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0315 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's president has designated Antonio Carrillo Flores, honorary ambassador, and Humberto Lugo Gil, president of the Great Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, as his representatives to the funeral of Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the USSR's Supreme Soviet.

HUNGARY'S SZUROS ON PRI EFFORTS FOR SOCIAL PEACE

FL101755 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0230 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Matyas Szuros, committee secretary general of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [title as received], today stated that the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] has played a key role in achieving the social peace which exists in Mexican territory.

Prior to his departure for Nicaragua after a 4-day working visit to this capital, the Hungarian leader referred to the role Mexico is playing in the Contadora Group as part of its efforts to achieve peace in Central America.

On another subject, the Hungarian socialist leader said he opposes the proliferation of nuclear arms in the world, and warned that to preserve world peace the main task at this time is to avoid an imbalance between East and West in the military field. It is urgent, he said, that all nations in the world voice their opposition to the deployment of the Pershing II Missiles in Europe, and he added that he hoped relations between the Soviet Union and the United States would improve. During his stay here, Szuros met with PRI and PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] leaders and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, to whom he delivered an invitation from the Hungarian Government for a visit by President Miguel de la Madrid.

NICARAGUAN OFFICIAL SAYS OIL SUPPLY ASSURED

FL112013 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, 11 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaragua's PETRONIC [Nicaraguan Petroleum Enterprise] Director Jose D. Gomez has reported that Mexico will maintain the sale of 7,500 oil barrels per day to Nicaragua from Pemex installations in Salina Cruz, Oaxaca.

He noted that Nicaragua, in addition to oil, wants to obtain Mexican liquefied gas, which would be shipped from the Pajaritos Port installations, 5 km from Coatzacoalcos, on the southern coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

Gomez is visiting Coatzacoalcos to see the Pemex installations. He toured the area accompanied by Pemex representatives Baldomero and German Asif.

He said that his country only operates a small refinery that processes 15,000 oil barrels per day to obtain various petroleum by-products.

He also disclosed that he will continue his trip to Mexico City, where he will meet with top Pemex officials.

ALGERIA EXTENDS INVITATION FOR MEETING

FL112035 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico has received an invitation from Algeria's National Popular Assembly to hold a bilateral interparliamentary meeting in Algeria in the near future. When he received the invitation from Algerian Ambassador Nur ad-Din Yazid Zerhoumi, Humberto Lugo Gil, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies' Great Commission, stated that Mexico's Congress would make the preparations for this meeting at the earliest possible opportunity.

Luis Danton Rodriguez, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and Victor Alfonso Maldonado and Manuel Pizarro, directors of information and public relations for the Chamber of Deputies, respectively, attended the meeting with the Algerian ambassador.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES MEETING ON WORKERS' PROGRAMS

FL092358 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2155 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid, speaking today at a meeting at the National Palace, where he inaugurated programs to protect the salaries and buying power of workers, said that the economic policy followed by the current government has reduced the effects of the crisis. The president said that because we have been able to consider the problems clearly, make decisions without wavering, and act with sufficient firmness, we have now progressed to another stage, although we are still in difficulty. He said that it is very easy to request changes in Mexico's economic policy when one does not have to be responsible for facing the effects of irresponsible choices that do not make sense technically, which is what people do who say that the economic policy has brought about social costs.

He also said: We need a strong country that is not vulnerable to the difficult world in which we live. He added that this unity derives from the basic unity of the Mexican people. In other countries, disunity brings with it political instability and risks to national independence. He pointed out that in Mexico, national independence is firm because the majority of the people are united on basic issues and because they know how to discuss their differences within existing institutions to solve their conflicts.

He acknowledged that the maturity and the progressive character of the organized labor sector have been decisive factors in getting aspects of the crisis under control and establishing a gradual and firm economic recovery. President De la Madrid added that the government and the workers belong to the same trunk within the revolution, so that the revolution continues to provide Mexicans with the living guidance that inspires them and obligates them to be allies.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO PHILIPPINES -- Armando Cantu Medina has been appointed Mexico's new ambassador to the Philippines, replacing Joaquin Bernal. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 4 Feb 84 p 23-a PA]

DE LA ESPRIELLA RESIGNS; ILLUECA ASSUMES POST

PA132111 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2056 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Panama City, 13 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Government sources have reported to ACAN-EFE that Jorge Illueca, vice president of the republic, has now assumed the presidency.

The whereabouts of President Ricardo de la Espriella are unknown. He has been on a visit in the western province of Chiriqui since Friday.

Illueca Sworn In

PA132119 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2110 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Dr Jorge Illueca took over the presidency of the republic this afternoon after being sworn in before the Supreme Court, in accordance with the Constitution. Illueca took over the presidency due to the resignation of Ricardo de la Espriella early this afternoon.

So far we have been able to confirm that former President Ricardo de la Espriella is at his home, where everything is apparently normal.

Illueca Comments

PA132135 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2123 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Panama City, 13 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Jorge Illueca, the new president of Panama, was sworn in early this afternoon before the Supreme Court of Justice, following the resignation of Ricardo de la Espriella. President Illueca personally told ACAN-EFE that he learned of the situation at noon today.

According to Illueca, Ricardo de la Espriella sent his resignation this morning to Lorenzo Alfonso, head of the National Assembly of Representatives, who turned it over to the Supreme Court of Justice.

Dr Illueca was sworn in as president of the republic shortly before 1500 (2000 GMT), before all of the Supreme Court justices.

Elections Will Be Held

PA132238 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2219 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Panama City, 13 Feb (EFE) -- Jorge Illueca, aged 65, unexpectedly replaced Ricardo de la Espriella as the president of Panama today, and told EFE that he was maintaining the commitment to hold the general elections slated for 6 May 1984.

Illueca was sworn in before the Supreme Court of Justice after De la Espriella's unexplained resignation. The new president personally told EFE that he heard about De la Espriella's resignation just before 1500 (2000 GMT) today. Illueca was sworn in a few minutes later by the Supreme Court magistrates, as specified by the Constitution.

In his initial statement as the president of Panama, Illueca told EFE that De la Espriella's decision was made "after reflection" but without an explanation of his reasons.

The 41st president of Panama insisted that relations with all countries will be maintained, and gave assurances that the change in the presidency did not mean political changes.

Illueca called a cabinet meeting for today, although he did not specify in his statement to EFE if any changes would be made in what has been De la Espriella's cabinet until now.

After assuming his new post, Illueca went from his office at the vice presidency to the Las Garzas presidential palace.

The new president noted that his current responsibilities mean that he must resign as the president of the 38th United Nations General Assembly.

De la Espriella Letter of Resignation

PA132258 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2244 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Letter of resignation sent by President Ricardo de la Espriella to the president of the Panamanian National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives on 13 February -- read by announcer]

[Text] Honorable President of the Assembly: I hereby inform you, for the pertinent purposes, that I have decided to resign from the presidency of the republic effective today, 13 February 1984.

With full consideration and affection,
[Signed] Ricardo de la Espriella
President of the Republic

Military Maintains Silence

PA13234C Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2324 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Panama City, 13 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Sources within military headquarters have informed ACAN-EFE that the members of the Panama Defense Forces General Staff gathered late this afternoon for a meeting. Although this has not been officially confirmed, other sources linked to the government have noted the possibility that ranking military leaders may attend the meeting that President Illueca has called for tonight.

So far military circles have maintained a strict silence about the unexpected situation that was produced today by Ricardo de la Espriella's resignation from the presidency.

Illueca Denies UN Post Resignation

PA132345 Paris AFP in Spanish 2329 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] United Nations, New York, 13 Feb (AFP) -- Jorge Illueca, president of the UN General Assembly and the new president of Panama, has firmly denied that he plans to resign from his UN position. In a telephone conversation with his spokesman, Mario Zamorano, Illueca denied rumors that he plans to resign from the UN General Assembly presidency.

Illueca also said that he will personally report to the United Nations tomorrow on the situation created in Panama by President Ricardo de la Espriella's resignation.

UN sources recalled that there is a precedent, in that Gaston Thorn in 1976 was simultaneously prime minister of Luxembourg and president of the UN General Assembly.

Illueca's Statement to Nation

PA140022 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2337 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Statement by Panamanian President Jorge Illueca after being sworn in before the Supreme Court of Justice in Panama City on 13 February -- recorded]

[Text] Citizens: I address the country after having assumed the presidency of the republic this afternoon as a result of the resignation presented by President Ricardo de la Espriella.

After being sworn in by the Chief Justice in a plenary session of the Supreme Court, in the presence of Professor Alfonso Lorenzo Govea [as heard], president of the honorable National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, I realized that this is a great honor, to which even the most humble Panamanian aspires, but which at the same time implies a great responsibility, particularly because the person who occupies the presidency must necessarily be inspired by the deeds of men of the stature of Tomas Herrera, Justo Arosemena, Belisario Porras, and Omar Torrijos Herrera.

Inspired by the deeds of these great supermen [prohombres] of our nation, I wish to tell the Panamanian nation that the highest priority, while I am head of public administration, will be given to the elections that will be held on 6 May 1984. This is a sacred commitment made by the national government: that on 6 May, national elections will be held to renew the branches of public power, elections in which all sectors of the citizenry and all political parties will participate. The executive branch has made a commitment to cooperate with the Electoral Tribunal and with all branches of state to ensure that those elections reflect the citizens' will.

In this regard, I must say that there is also a commitment to maintain order, which is the responsibility of both the governed and of those who govern: democratic order and a state of law in which all human beings who are in our national territory may exercise their human rights, be treated with respect, and have equal opportunities. These opportunities must be equal in all sectors of our social life, for businessmen as well as for workers, for teachers as well as for students, for the men and women of rural areas and for the men and women of the cities.

We also wish to note our intention to continue the harmonious international relations that the administration has had with all governments in this hemisphere. This includes all of those that have relations with the Republic of Panama. It is our intention to ensure that Panama follows the rules of international law and respects its international commitments. All joint enterprises, such as the Contadora initiative, will continue to receive the greatest attention and care from my government. We will retain our loyalty and adherence to the ideals of the United Nations and continue our participation in the OAS and other international organizations.

Before concluding, I wish to recognize the chivalry and spirit of patriotism demonstrated by Ricardo de la Espriella, with whom we have maintained very close cooperation. His efforts have been fruitful, as the facts demonstrate, and I would like the citizens to know just how much we appreciate this effort and how much we respect him as a person. This transfer of government is being harmoniously carried out, within the strictest constitutional canons.

I would conclude by saying that for us, the homeland is our party and we will never surrender our determination that the men, and the women, the children, and the aged who make up this fatherland and comprise our nationality can be always certain that they are protected by the Constitution and the law and above all, by a spirit of fraternity and respect for human dignity and fundamental freedoms. Thank you very much.

Noriega, Diplomatic Corps Welcomed

PA140143 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0059 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A few minutes ago Dr Jorge Illueca Sibauste, president of the republic, received greetings from the diplomatic corps accredited in Panama and from General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces of Panama. On receiving the diplomatic corps, President Illueca made the following brief statement:

[Begin Illueca recording] Your Excellency, Apostolic Nuncio, dean of the diplomatic corps; Your Excellency, president of the Supreme Court of Justice; Your Excellency, chairman of the honorable National Assembly of Representatives; Your Excellency, commander of the National Defense Forces; honorable members of the diplomatic corps; ministers; members of the general staff; civilian, religious, and military authorities:

I wish to express our gratitude at your presence; to reaffirm the ideals that serve as our guidelines and that are, indeed, the fundamental values of the state of Panama, expressed in the national Constitution and in the laws of the republic; and to confirm that it is our intention to maintain our relations with the nations represented here at the highest possible level of fraternity, friendship, understanding, and cooperation.

Panama has a tradition of peace and harmony, well exemplified by our country's social life. This is a propitious occasion to express my best wishes for the happiness of the nations that you here represent, and to place myself at your disposal, assuring you that Panama's national government will continue to deal with all national sectors with the greatest harmony and unity, so that the resulting harmonious relations between the government and the people will allow us to meet the needs of our people and the demands of modern living. Thank you very much. [end recording]

Cabinet Meeting Called 14 Feb

PA140318 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0241 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A very reliable source has just informed us unofficially that President Illueca has called a general cabinet meeting for tomorrow. This will include all top government officials. So we will be here again tomorrow to report to you. This will be President Illueca's first general cabinet meeting.

OPPOSITION PARTIES ON PRESIDENTIAL RESHUFFLE

'Abrupt Replacement'

PA140317 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0224 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Panama City, 13 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The Panamanian Christian Democratic Party (PDC) described the presidential change today as an "abrupt replacement," and added that it is a "new kind of coup d'etat resulting from a conflict between pro-government factions."

In a communique signed by its president, Ricardo Arias Calderon, the PDC demands of both Ricardo de la Espriella and Jorge Illueca "an explanation to justify an act of such magnitude a mere 2 months before the first presidential elections to be held in 16 years."

The PDC political committee met for several hours after learning of the reshuffle, in which President Ricardo de la Espriella resigned and Jorge Illueca, who has been vice president since August, 1982, became president.

The PDC maintains that "in view of the obvious majority strength of the democratic opposition alliance," the presidential reshuffle "reveals the decomposition of the current regime."

In a communique issued after the political committee meeting, the PDC divided the pro-government forces into two factions: "those who want to manipulate the elections," and "those who would have liked to overcome such undemocratic practices."

According to the PDC, the first faction insists on "manipulating the elections," using government employees and state resources, through a "biased" cabinet. "this conflict," the PDC says, "is taking place in a climate of renewed suspicion and indications of scandalous corruption, which proves our bishops" charge that corruption in the handling of public affairs has reached alarming levels."

According to the PDC, the reasons for De la Espriella's resignation are linked to the "power struggle between pro-government factions and the involvement of those factions in the corruption scandals." It also warns that "any attempt to manipulate the elections would be seriously harmful to the country, its democratization, and even its security."

The PDC is part of the opposition alliance that supports former President Arnulfo Arias Madrid. The PDC president is the candidate for the second vice presidency on the Arias presidential slate for the 6 May elections.

Other opposition political parties have indicated that they are assessing the latest events and will issue statements when they have obtained more details.

Miguel Antonio Bernal, leader of the opposition Popular Action Party, described the reshuffle as "a coup" similar to that which was carried out in July, 1982 against Aristides Royo, but aggravated by the fact that this has taken place on the eve of the general elections. Bernal repudiated the change in government and said that De la Espriella's resignation "is the result of growing intervention by the leaders of the National Guard General Staff in state administration."

Typical 'Coup'

PA140354 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0335 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Panama City, 13 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Carlos Ivan Zuniga, presidential candidate for the opposition Peoples Action Party (PAPO), described the presidential reshuffle in Panama today as "a typical 'constitutionalized' coup d'etat."

Zuniga said that President Ricardo de la Espriella's resignation is "obvious proof of the precariousness of Panamanian institutions," and described the "coup" as similar to that which took place against Aristides Royo on 30 July 1982, bringing De la Espriella to the presidency.

"The president's mandate does not rest in the Constitution, but in the whim of the military," Zuniga said. His party advocates the convocation of a constituent assembly.

The opposition political leader said: "We do not know how long Illueca is going to last (in the presidency), but the very fact of the change obliges citizens to consider political solutions that will permit the establishment of a new constitutional system for all Panamanians."

Zuniga is one of five candidates for the presidency of the republic. The others are Arnulfo Arias Madrid (opposition coalition); General Ruben Dario Paredes, retired (Popular Nationalist Party); Nicolas Ardito Barletta (pro-government coalition); and Jose Renan Esquivel (leftist coalition).

BARLETTA ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION FROM WORLD BANK

PA101914 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] At a press conference today in Washington, Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta announced his resignation as vice president of the World Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean, and accepted the presidential nomination of an alliance of four parties to which, he said, two more parties will be added.

Barletta said that in his campaign for the 6 May elections he will raise the banner of social development, and he described himself as a pragmatic defender of a free nation, open to development with social justice. He emphasized his intention of perfecting the political and economic model designed by the late General Omar Torrijos, whose goal was the improvement of the Panamanian standard of living through health, education, and housing programs.

Barletta told journalists in Washington that the May elections will be the climax of the gradual process initiated by Torrijos to fully reestablish democracy in Panama, and he emphasized that Panama needs to rev up the motors of its economy, generate jobs, and offer more dynamic and efficient government services.

On the topic of the Panama Canal, Barletta said he will promote the continuation of dialogue with the United States to achieve agreements of mutual benefit in areas not included in the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

Questioned about the Central American crisis, he favored a peaceful solution, the Contadora Group alternative, and internal efforts in each country to find their own paths to stability and development. He said that extraregional forces should return the initiative to the nations involved in the subregional crisis.

Barletta said that if he wins the elections he plans to follow Torrijos' policies toward Cuba, based on mutual respect and acceptance of Cuba as a Latin American country. However, he stressed that the key to these relations is mutual respect in order to maintain a dialogue and to have cordial and respectful relations. He further said that each government has the right to decide if it needs foreign military aid and if it should request it from an allied nation such as the United States. It is a right that must be respected, he said.

Finally, Dr Barletta praised the Kissinger report on Central America and expressed hope that it will be put into effect so it will contribute to the promotion of development in those countries.

PDP on Barletta's Nomination

PA122005 Panama City YA in Spanish 11 Feb 84 pp 4, 12

[Text] The [People's Party, PDP] Central Committee's Political Bureau met yesterday to discuss the news conference presided over by the recently created Democratic Nationalist Union [Union Nacionalista Democratica] at which Nicolas Ardito Barletta, Arturo del Valle, and Roderick Esquivel were nominated presidential and vice presidential candidates. Regarding this, we must declare:

1. The PDP did not participate and was not consulted in the decision to present the presidential ticket led by Ardito Barletta. Neither did our party commit itself a priori to support this decision once it was made.

2. We inform people that a delegation from our party conferred with Ardito Barletta over a several week period and discussed general topics regarding a possible program, but no commitments were made. Another meeting was to take place, but this did not occur.

3. Our position has been, is, and will continue to be based on the urgent need for an understanding between all the forces capable of advancing the decolonization process initiated by Omar Torrijos Herrera, which should include the joint effort of all the workers' and leftist parties to create the national and international conditions that will allow full compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the culmination of our national liberation, and the establishment of a progressive democracy.

4. We will continue to remain alert and receptive to any sincere effort to unite all forces interested in enacting the five fundamental points on which Torrijism is based.

5. The Political Bureau has appointed commissions to intensify talks and negotiations with the forces involved in the Torrijista process and with leftist parties, in order to arrive at a unified stance for the upcoming elections. We hereby declare that we will seriously consider the various options that may exist.

(Signed) Cleto Souza, Electoral Activities Branch, Identification Card 4-47-390

MOLIRENA, PNP NOMINATE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

MOLIRENA Names Graell

PA101613 Panama City YA in Spanish 10 Feb 84 pp 16, 12

[Excerpts] The Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement (MOLIRENA) on Wednesday, in a skillful, well-planned political maneuver, nominated its candidates for president, first vice president, and second vice president. MOLIRENA named Cesar Arrocha Graell as presidential candidate and Guillermo Quijano and Guillermo Ford as first and second vice presidential candidates.

Paredes Wins PNP Nomination

PA121915 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] The Popular Nationalist Party [PNP] held its national convention this afternoon and nominated General Ruben Dario Paredes as its presidential candidate in the 6 May election. His ticket includes Carlos Enrique Landau and Olimpo Saez as first and second vice presidents, respectively.

The event was held at the President Theater, where PNP members and friends of the retired general gave assurances of their support. The PNP convention also approved the party's new statutes and reelected Saez as party president.

Paredes Defines Political Stand

PA122008 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Feb 84 p 12 C

[Report by Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Excerpt] After being nominated presidential candidate of the Popular Nationalist Party (PNP) and the "Third Force Movement," General Ruben Dario Paredes warned President Ricardo de la Espriella, his cabinet, the Electoral Tribunal magistrates. and especially the Defense Forces that "nobody in this country is willing to put up with a hoax, and the elections must be held on 6 May."

Commenting later on the attempts to amend the electoral law, he said that De la Espriella has been aware of all these attempts, and that these "electoral decisions made in the wee morning hours" will not pass.

The penultimate National Guard commander was nominated presidential candidate before some 2,000 people gathered at the President Theater for the second national PNP convention. At the event Paredes stressed that the Panamanian bishops' message, expressed in their most recent pastoral letter, indicates that the bishops will be arbiters and guarantors of the developments on 6 May.

Paredes later defined his political stand as an objective, peaceful, balanced, and rectifying opposition that advocates change. He added that this change cannot be brought about by either a vengeful opposition or an alliance that permits the return of the oligarchs to power.

PANAMENISTS, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS FORM ALLIANCE

PA120304 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Feb 84 pp A-1, B-12

[Communique issued by the Authentic Panamenist Party and the Christian Democratic Party in Panama City on 10 February]

[Text] Following a calm and patriotic evaluation of the critical economic, fiscal, and moral situation faced by our republic as a result of long years of iron hard dictatorship, the Authentic Panamenist Party and the Christian Democratic Party have agreed to form the Democratic Opposition Alliance [Alianza de Oposicion Democratica], as demanded and required by the Panamanian people.

In order to recover the country's democratic institutions and to provide a government that will faithfully reflect the people's will, they have agreed to nominate the following presidential slate in their respective conventions:

President	Arnulfo Arias Madrid
First Vice President	Carlos F. Rodriguez
Second Vice President	Ricardo Arias Calderon

The Authentic Panamenist and Christian Democratic Parties issue a patriotic appeal to the remaining opposition parties, independent organizations and citizens, and to the Panamanian people at large to join this great opposition alliance for the benefit of the country's highest interests.

MORE OPPOSITION GROUPS ENDORSE ARIAS TICKET

PA122011 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Feb 84 p 1 A

[Report by Vladimir Sandoval]

[Excerpt] The opposition's unity seemed to be formally consolidated yesterday when nine democratic opposition groups endorsed Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid's presidential candidacy for the May election.

The Authentic Liberal Party led by Dr Arnulfo Escalona Rios, an as yet unregistered party; a faction of the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement (MOLIRENA) led by industrialist Abraham Pretto; and Alvin Weeden, dissident member of the Peoples Action Party [PAPO], have endorsed the presidential ticket of the Authentic Panamenist Party and the Christian Democratic Party, whose candidates are three-time president Dr Arias, Carlos Rodriguez, and Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon.

In his speech accepting his candidacy, the octogenarian leader addressed "all our brothers throughout the Republic, from border to border and from ocean ot ocean." He added: "I want to make a very special appeal to the MOLIRENA, the PAPO, and the PAN [National Action Party], as well as to the soldiers who defend our homeland, because they, too, are citizens and have a right to vote."

BRIEFS

NEW INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT -- A large group of independent citizens who do not belong to any 1f the existing political parties is organizing a movement to take an active part in the upcoming elections. They have asked prominent Panamanian businessman Samuel Lewis Galindo to head this movement. According to Lewis, the purpose of the movement is to analyze the political platforms of presidential candidates and offer support to the best candidate. He added that the movement will be organized at the national level. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 4 Feb 84 pp 1, 11 PA]

ORTEGA PUBLISHES BOOK -- Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega has presented his book "Dialogue: Possible Alternative" to the public. The book covers such subjects as labor matters from the viewpoint of social justice, Panamanian society and the impact of General Omar Torrijos' work on this society, and the problems of economic development and the creation of jobs in our country. Ortega's book also focuses on the various problems that have been solved in Panama through dialogue and the dialogue within the Central American conflict. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Feb 84 pp 1-A, 12-B PA]

EL SALVADOR

ARMY DISMANTLES 'EL VOLCANCILLO' GUERRILLA CAMP

PA132025 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 13 Feb 84 p 10

[Text] The Army has dismantled a terrorist camp in the northern part of the country, according to military reports. The action took place in the Department of Chalatenango, and the camp was known as "El Volcancillo."

According to the same sources, guerrillas had built this camp some 20 km north of Chalatenango's capital, and it was one of "the most important guerrilla camps in this region." Fifteen guerrillas were killed during the attack. According to reports, the guerrillas were forced to move toward the Honduran border. Some 2,000 soldiers of the Ramon Belloso Battalion and of the 4th Infantry Brigade are participating in the operation.

Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, former commander of the General Traffic Department and commander of the Ramon Belloso Battalion, reported that between 200 and 500 guerrillas were dislodged from the camp in a surprise attack. According to FMLN reports, clashes continued near "El Volcancillo," and rebel forces have inflicted some 45 casualties on the Army.

FDR'S UNGO OUTLINES PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT PLAN

PA130445 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 5 Feb 84 p D-14

[By Nestor Mora]

[Text] According to Guillermo Ungo, who is visiting Caracas, the Salvadoran FDR next week will announce a proposal for a political settlement of the crisis in El Salvador. The document, which is now receiving the finishing touches, proposes that a broad-based provisional government be created with no predominating political force. It also establishes the FDR's position that the platform for such a government must open the way to national consensus.

The proposal provides more details on these two points and on what we offer as an alternative to a prolongation of the war, because we feel that the main objective in El Salvador at the moment should be peace, and not elections, Ungo said. In Ungo's opinion, only if the current structure of terror and repression is changed can the election be held democratically and with full guarantees. This would be one of the provisional government's objectives.

The FDR president also announced that he had an opportunity to meet with almost all of the heads of state and government who attended President Lusinchi's inauguration in Caracas. He talked with Presidents Betancur, Alfonsin, De la Espriella, Monge, and Salvador Blanco, as well as with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Mexican Foreign Secretary Sepulveda.

The contacts were useless [inutiles; as published] and candid, and he was able to notice that there is a continuing interest in and concern over the situation in El Salvador. He also felt a general conviction that the March elections will not be a solution but a source of complications, he remarked.

We asked for Ungo's opinion of Mr Shultz' statement a few days ago in Caracas that he was very much impressed with El Salvador and particularly with the luncheon with the candidates, all of whom, he said, support the democratic process. Ungo responded that:

-- Mr Shultz' statements reflect one of two things: total ignorance or a complete concealment of El Salvador's reality.

-- The elections in El Salvador will primarily serve the U.S. political-electoral interests and U.S. foreign policy, which is futilely seeking to restore the Salvadoran Government's prestige and deteriorated image in order to move forward with the military plan. He said that he feels that these elections will only produce a repetition of the Salvadoran Government's current state of decay, lack of morale, chaos, and contradiction. He then said sarcastically:

-- Only Shultz can see a festive mood around the elections, which does not reflect the feelings of the majority of Salvadorans. This creates problems for the government itself and the Army, which is obsessed with their military effort.

-- Whatever government emerges from the elections -- if they are held -- will be weak and subordinate to the Reagan administration and to the Army High Command, which requires that everything take a backseat to the war needs.

-- In any event, whoever is elected will have to negotiate with the various rightist forces -- because there will be no legislative elections -- and no political party has a majority in the Assembly at the moment.

-- This, he warned, is true only if the Christian Democratic candidate wins, because matters will be even worse if D'Aubuisson, who is one of the rightist candidates, wins.

Reagan: D'Aubuisson's Absolution

On the statements made by the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador during the Carter administration, who charged that the Reagan administration has known for 3 years that D'Aubuisson killed Monsignor Romero and that the death squads are financed by a group of self-exiled wealthy Salvadorans in Miami, Ungo said:

-- While White has attested to D'Aubuisson's participation in Msgr Romero's assassination, the complicity of the Reagan administration has concealed this information. This administration has already given its blessing to D'Aubuisson in case he wins the elections, because it already regards him as a democrat, as if by magic.

He went on to say that the declaration that was signed by the heads of state and government here in Caracas confirms Latin America's position in favor of dialogue and negotiation as a formula for a solution and reflects the interest in and concern over Central America and the desire to help to achieve a peaceful solution, thus establishing a difference between Latin America's position and that of the Reagan administration.

The Dangers of Direct Intervention Are Real

Asked if there is really a danger of direct U.S. intervention in Central America, Ungo asserted:

-- This is not a simple hypothesis, but a dangerous possibility. The United States wants the elections to be held in order to legitimize an act of intervention, which could be requested by the government that is elected.

He stressed, however, that the elections are scheduled to be held in less than 2 months and that at this late date there is no Electoral Registry and no law on elections; the Central Elections Council lacks some leaders and 20 percent of the country's municipalities are located in areas under FMLN control.

All of this indicates that the elections will not be free, but an electoral farce, being handled by a government that is massively engaged in state terrorism.

-- And how about the charge that the death squads are financed by rich Salvadoran businessmen?

-- This has been a known fact since 1980, and the United States simply accepts and condones it. The proposals to carry out a purge, which were, in themselves, purely cosmetic, have not been fulfilled, not in the slightest degree, in either El Salvador or Miami.

A Security Shield? False.

One of the assertions made by Shultz in Caracas was that if the United States withdraws the security shield "against Nicaraguan, Cuban, and Soviet aggression," it will be replaced by a totalitarian regime. To this, Ungo said emphatically:

-- That is false. This is but a means of maintaining the U.S. presence in Central America. This U.S. military presence has already rendered Honduras an occupied territory and a huge military base.

-- The truth is that the North American military assistance, which generally falls into the FMLN's hands through the Salvadoran Army, is one of the FMLN's sources of supply.

Ungo met with President Jaime Lusinchi yesterday afternoon.

GUATEMALA

U.S. CITIZEN, GUATEMALAN WIFE FOUND DEAD

PA140147 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0130 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- U.S. citizen Robert Carrol Houter and his wife, Gabriela Ampara Mansilla Quinonez, were murdered today in Amatitlan, 25 km south of Guatemala City, the police have reported. A police spokesman said that Carrol's body was found today in house No 9 on the road to La Barca, Amatitlan, the site of "The Torch" Club, which was owned by the U.S. citizen.

His 19-year-old wife, a Guatemalan citizen, was also found dead, shot in the head and neck, at km 21 on the highway from Guatemala City to Amatitlan, the police spokesman said. The source added that the double murder was discovered when Amatitlan residents found the body of the woman in a ditch. It was subsequently learned that unidentified persons had entered the house in question and killed the 60-year-old Carrol, who was shot several times. The police have as yet made no arrests in connection with the double murder.

HONDURAS

REINA BROTHERS ORGANIZE FACTION WITHIN PLH

PA131930 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The Liberals who oppose the Rodista faction [followers of deceased Liberal Party of Honduras, PLH leader Modesto Rodas] used this past weekend to mobilize their forces. While Jose Azcona del Hoyo celebrated his birthday in Choluteca yesterday surrounded by the dissidents who make up the Rodista faction, brothers Carlos Roberto and Jorge Arturo Reina founded their own movement, the Revolutionary Democratic Liberal Movement [Movimiento Liberal Democratico Revolucionario]. Here is Jose Ochoa y Martinez' report:

[Begin recording] Carlos Roberto Reina and Jorge Arturo Reina yesterday organized a new internal current within the PLH. This is the central directorate of the movement, or new internal current of the PLH, which emerged yesterday: President, Jorge Arturo Reina; secretary general, Armando Aguilar Cruz; secretary of finances, (Virginia de Espinosa); secretary of organization, Arturo Morales Funez; secretary of propaganda, (Ruben) Villeda Bermudez; secretary of political training, (Guillermo Molina Chocano); and secretary for affairs, (Gloria Ulloa Rendon de Recarte).

The new movement's Political Commission includes Carlos Roberto Reina, Jorge Arturo Reina, Ubence Osorio Galo, Alfonso Espinal Zavala, (Alfonso Lacayo), (Emilio Carranza Polanco), (Cecilio Zavala Mendez), (Armando Blanco Paniagua), (Juan Fernando Avila), and (Amado Cruz III). The coordinator of this Political Commission is Carlos Roberto Reina, whom the new Liberal movement has also proclaimed its presidential candidate.

The Reina brothers and their work team must register their organization with the PLH Executive Central Council within the next few days. There are now three currents within the PLH: The Liberal Rodista Movement, the Peoples Liberal Alliance, and the Revolutionary Democratic Liberal Movement. [end recording]

Commentator Views New Faction

PA140051 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Rodrigo Wong Arevalo commentary]

[Excerpts] As our political reporters have pointed out, this past weekend has been marked by intense political activity. The emergence of the Revolutionary Democratic Liberal Movement led by Dr Carlos Roberto Reina and his brother Jorge Arturo has been a major development, eliciting general anticipation here in Honduras, especially within the Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH].

The Reinista movement led by the Reina brothers raises complex questions about the future of the PLH, which, inconceivably, although still in power has been eroded in such a way that no one can be certain that the Liberals can win a second consecutive term in office. The irresolvable differences between the Reina brothers and the ALIPO [Peoples Liberal Alliance, a PLH faction] leaders in the north and west led to a separation and to the present outcome.

The Reina brothers assert that they will renew the PLH ideology and will rebuild current structures. Political parties are usually worn out while in power. This, however, would be the first case in which a party has worn out even before completing its first term in office. We are sure, however -- as is any Honduran with any political expertise -- that any traditional party must undergo changes if it is to confront the new realities.

Liberalism, which goes back several generations, needs to be rejuvenated. In several countries its systems have been shaken by new ideas, though it has not foresaken the progressive ideas that moved the Liberals of old.

Initially, when it was rumored that the Reinista Liberal Movement would adopt the legal and functional guidelines of the social democrats, we thought that the struggle would be made more difficult for this new faction, but the absolute clarity with which its leaders have acted, calling their movement the Revolutionary Democratic Liberal Movement, demonstrates that the Reina brothers do not want to move away from the original Liberal molds.

The Reina brothers' permanence within the PLH will now depend on whether they can register their movement. We believe that only fearful Rodistas could object to the registration of this new faction. The best and healthiest thing for the institutional process, which is viewed as the instrument for Honduras' salvation, would be to permit the Reinista movement to register, thereby strengthening this process of institutionalization and rendering it more serious.

NICARAGUA

COMMENTARY SEES CHANCE FOR U.S.-USSR ACCORD

PA132324 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Commentary by Carlos Chamorro Coronel: "New Opportunity for World Detente"]

[Text] The death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov offers the United States -- specifically the Reagan administration, which has been so reluctant to come to an understanding -- a new opportunity to reach a friendly agreement with the Soviet Union. Konstantin Chernenko, the new general secretary of the USSR Communist Party, recently told the British newspaper SUNDAY TIMES that an improvement in relations with the United States at this time is more important than ever. He warned, however, that the Soviet Union will not tolerate U.S. military supremacy, which should not be interpreted as a threat, but simply as the sine qua non for maintaining the necessary balance between the two powers.

To arrive at this friendly arrangement, which would guarantee world peace -- the necessary foundation for the progress and development of all of the world's countries -- the Reagan administration must realize, as Chernenko himself has said, that Moscow does not harbor secret intentions or evil designs. The Soviet leader also said: We are open to the world and favor active and fruitful dialogue with nations that have social systems different from ours.

Are the current U.S. leaders capable of fulfilling this historic destiny? This is what is in doubt and at stake. If not, then, unfortunately for the rest of the world, only one non-alternative will be left: to accept the unacceptable, which is an antihistoric destiny, indeed -- the end of the world.

CEMA GROUP ARRIVES TO HELP DRAFT PLANS, PROJECTS

PA140404 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] A high-level delegation from the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, CEMA, today arrived in Nicaragua. The 17 delegates are being led by Angel Chaucheu and Nikolay Lindouvsky, CEMA assistant secretary and executive secretary, respectively. The delegation is here on a 15-day tour to observe the nation's agricultural and economic development and to help draft economic, agricultural, and industrial plans and projects. It will also instruct the Nicaraguan technical personnel who are assigned to initiate these agro-industrial and energy projects.

The group is here to offer advice because Nicaragua was given observer status at last year's CEMA meeting in Berlin. CEMA normally plans all activity for each member nation in its annual cooperation projects in health, education, agriculture, and industry in accordance with each country's capabilities, and then prepares its exchange programs.

1,600 STUDENT TEACHERS TO TRAIN IN CUBA

PA132000 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] An impressive farewell ceremony was held yesterday at the Commander Ana Maria Square of the Eduardo Contreras Community Center for more than 1,600 members of the 50th Anniversary Education Brigade. They will start leaving today for Cuba, where they will remain for 4 months undergoing training in the techniques and basic principles of primary instruction.

The ceremony was attended by Government Junta members Sergio Ramirez, Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion, Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce, Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez, Guerrilla Commander Leticia Herrera, delegates of the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement, members of the Sandinist Defense Committees, and the 50th Anniversary Education Brigade.

The future teachers, who are outstanding students from the nation's main institutes and secondary schools, were sworn in at the ceremony by Julio Cesar Castillo, General Augusto Cesar Sandino's grandson. The youths pledged to value the dignity and trust that the revolutionary government has shown by entrusting them with this patriotic mission, which will benefit thousands and thousands of peasants. Youth coordinator Mario Mudera received the 50th Anniversary Education Brigade's flag and read their pledge.

MINISTRY CRITICIZES HONDURAN STANCE ON REFUGEES

PA101428 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry in Managua on 9 February]

[Text] We have received today, 9 February, a Honduran Government answer to the Nicaraguan request of 26 January asking that a Miskito and Moravian Church delegation from the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua be allowed to visit the Miskito refugee camps in Honduras. The purpose of the visit was to have been to explain to the refugees the recent amnesty decreee issued by the Nicaraguan Government to facilitate a voluntary repatriation of Nicaraguan citizens of Miskito origin.

The Honduran Government has responded by denying the Nicaraguan delegation permission to visit these camps. The Nicaraguan Government views this as an extremely serious event because it means that the Nicaraguans in these camps are hostages or prisoners of the Honduran Government rather than refugees.

The Honduran Government's attitude once again makes it clear that it has no desire to cooperate to promote understanding and concord between Honduras and Nicaragua and that it openly and inexcusably violates the recent agreements signed in the framework of the Contadora Group, specifically the agreement ratified by Honduras that calls for providing facilities for voluntary repatriation of Central American refugees with the cooperation of interested governments.

This attitude also increases Nicaragua's concern for the fate of the Miskitos in Honduras, especially because well-known international personalities and Miskitos who have been able to escape from those camps have charged mass murders, disappearances, and threats against those who have tried to return to the fatherland and those who want to return.

The Nicaraguan Government publicly denounces this denial, which violates the most elemental human rights and reaffirms its decision to continue making efforts to secure the voluntary repatriation of its citizens with the cooperation of organizations and institutions willing to cooperate in this. The Honduran Government's denial is in contrast with the attitude of the Costa Rican Government which, faced with a similar request, not only accepted the visit of a Nicaraguan delegation but also offered to cooperate so that the delegation could accomplish its mission.

FRG REDUCES NUMBER OF COOPERATING EXPERTS

PA101608 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] The FRG Government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl has shown that it is unable to carry out a Central American policy with autonomy, resisting pressure from the Reagan administration. This was indicated here by Germans who are cooperating with Nicaragua after they had learned of their government's decision to reduce the number of German experts working in Nicaragua.

The Germans cooperating with Nicaragua have issued a communique stating that at the beginning of this month they received a message from the German Social and Technical Cooperation Service Office stating that their government wants to reduce radically the number of experts in Nicaragua and that no further agreements should be signed with Nicaraguan institutions. The German experts said they and the Nicaraguan institutions that benefit from their cooperation were shocked by this message. The FRG cooperation had been agreed on in 1982 by all the German political parties.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR BLANCA CONCLUDES VISIT

PA101653 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Antoine Blanca, the French roving ambassador for Latin America, has said that Nicaragua is the only Central American country that has issued specific proposals to find peaceful and negotiated solutions for the regional conflict. Before leaving the country, Blanca stressed that relations between France and Nicaragua are excellent, and that his government will continue giving assistance to the Nicaraguan revolution. He also expressed confidence in Nicaragua's efforts to maintain peace in Central America. The French ambassador was seen off at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport by members of the Government Junta and French Embassy officials.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL TIES

PA101954 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] In reiterating the Iranian Government's solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and revolution, Iranian Ambassador to Nicaragua (Muhammad Pairobi) told Radio Sandino that a Nicaraguan Government delegation headed by Sergio Ramirez will be traveling to Iran in the next few days to expand commercial relations between the two countries.

The Iranian ambassador said that during the first days of the revolution his government signed a $30 million letter of credit in favor of Nicaragua for the purchase of oil, which has been paid back with sugar, beef, and soybeans. The Iranian diplomat said the most important areas of the relationship between Iran and Nicaragua are political, economic, and social, and added that he expected Iran's solidarity with Nicaragua to increase this year.

Ambassador (Pairobi) reiterated Iran's solidarity with the Nicaraguan Government and people and at the same time condemned U.S. military exercises in Honduras. He added that his government does not believe that U.S. military, political, and economic attacks are aimed solely against Nicaragua, but that U.S. leaders are ready to carry out any kind of attack against any nation in the world. Ambassador (Pairobi) told Radio Sandino that his government strongly condemns the big stick policy, which he termed the policy of the Great Satan. The U.S. Administration will try to find any excuse to attack not only Nicaragua but the whole region, he concluded.

BORGE LEAVES FOR WRITER'S FUNERAL IN PARIS

PA140423 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinex, Nicaraguan interior minister, left today for Paris, France, with writer (Claribel Alegria) to attend funeral services for writer Julio Cortazar. Commander Borge is carrying a message of condolence from the FSLN leaders and the people of Nicaragua. Our presence at the funeral of Julio Cortazar reflects the friendship and admiration that we felt for him.

Borge was accompanied to the airport by Government Junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado, priest Ernesto Cardenal, Commander of the Revolution Omar Cabezas Lacayo, and represenatives from the Ministry of Culture.

CARRION DISCUSSES MILITARY, POLITICAL ISSUES

PA091800 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Feb 84 p 4

[By Arqueles Morales]

[Text] Aside from its various possible military tactics, the CIA will continue its constant terrorist activities as part of its imperialist nature, Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion told BARRICADA as he assessed the country's military situation. To support this statement, he reported that in Choluteca Department, Honduras, there is a training center for terrorist groups managed by a man named Denies Reyes, a former cropduster who was recruited by the CIA. "The 'Piranha' boats that have attacked Potosi are based there," he added.

We had talked about other issues earlier, but our conversation was now focused on military concerns. We were in his spacious office in the Interior Ministry. On a wall hung a large map depicting the current military situation. In front of the map, as if studying it, was a large photograph of Carlos [not further identified] the famous one taken while he was in prison in Costa Rica.

"In order to talk about various tactics, we must speculate," Commander Carrion said calmly. "As long as the U.S. Government holds to its decision to destroy our revolution, the defeat of the Somozists may simply accelerate direct U.S. intervention." Another possible course of action for them would be to use the counterrevolutionaries to create an artificial situation along the border in an effort to provoke a war with the Honduran Army.

Initially, we had discussed the massive surrender of former counterrevolutionaries, who took advantage of the decree issued on 4 December by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Commander Carrion told us that the number who have reportedly surrendered, 305, is not exact: "It is a conservative estimate. The list includes only those for whom we have full names. The quality of communications with distant parts of the country and our wish to be conservative is forcing us to underestimate, because the actual number is probably much higher."

The commander went into detail about the difficulties being faced by those who wish to return from Honduras or Costa Rica and by those who want to lay down their arms. "It has been impossible for our diplomats in Honduras, or even for officials representing international organizations, to visit what they call the refugee camps, in which Nicaraguans are going hungry and facing hardships. A Moravian Church delegation tried to visit one of the camps in Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, but its members were threatened with death and its trip was forestalled."

He added that most of these camps have no contact with the outside world and that hundreds of Nicaraguans have not heard about the decree. That is why the Interior Ministry will ask the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction to extend the effective term of the decree, which is scheduled to expire on 21 February.

What is the situation of the counterrevolutionary groups operating in our country? Commander Carrion has a habit of concentrating before he answers, and his answers are direct and precise, with words and concepts carefully chosen. "Their political weakness is increasing, and they are demoralized," he answered.

During the past few weeks the counterrevolutionary groups have resorted to kidnapping peasants and taking them to their camps in Honduras. "Fortunately, some always escape before they reach the camp at La Lodosa. Others, when assigned to a task force, escape at the first opportunity. Some return home and others remain nearby, but sooner or later they show up." The reason for this forceful recruitment is twofold. "First, it is a traditional method used by the repressive armies of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. Second, the CIA approves the salaries of those who are recruited. We know there are payrolls and that the leaders distribute the money among themselves."

Commander Carrion took us by surprise when he entered the room. We were looking curiously at a strange display almost completely concealed by a climbing plant -- a 50-mm weapon from World War II mounted on a tripod over a meter in height and including a feed belt with dummy cartridges. Carrion smiled when we commented on the original decoration. "It is not quite the way I want it yet; I want the plant to fully camouflage it, but no matter how hard I try, I have not been able to get it to do this."

Carrion was silent before answering our question about why 14 people, mainly peasants, surrendered in the 4th region. This happened, he said, because of the backwardness of the area and the mistrust of the peasants. But mistakes were also made by various government offices, especially in Pantasma and in the Plains of Vilan, "because they did not involve the whole region."

"For a while there the revolutionary policy was poorly implemented, especially in regard to agrarian reform. There was also some abuse of power and some supply problems. For example, there was some unjustified confiscation of land as a result of a misunderstanding by the peasants of the north regarding the attitude of some officials who favored the peasants without land. This essentially isolated the small-and medium-size producers."

Apart from this, he added, "As a result of the major military activity in the zone, where we have distributed arms to thousands of men, and through which reserve battalions, militias, and the Army are passing, some irresponsible people caused incidents and committed abuses."

Commander Carrion added that the important part of this is that the inhabitants of the affected communities witnessed the crime, but did not see those who were responsible punished. The methods used in these cases were not properly explained to them, which created an unfavorable situation in those communities.

Nevertheless, the revolution can attest to its self-criticism and to the fact that it faces reality. After stating that the revolution can only be strengthened by admitting its errors, Carrion noted that several landholdings that were not properly confiscated have been returned to their owners. In other cases, those whose land was not returned have received compensation. "We are now giving broad publicity to the sanctions that have been applied to those who committed abuses, and we will also bring delegations from the affected regions to the trials, which will be held in Managua or Matagalpa."

Let's go back to the topic of the "civic" right and to its role in the imperialists' military-political plans; some examples will serve to explain. Carrion said: "For example, LA PRENSA gave considerable publicity to a communique issued by the so-called Social Democratic Party, overemphasizing its importance."

"This is a party whose leaders, mid-level numbers, and rank and file could easily fit around this table," Carrion said smiling and pointing to a rectangular table with eight chairs. "So what's the idea? Let's examine the imperialists' information system: LA PRENSA publishes something in a prominent manner. The report is then sent abroad and bounces back to Nicaragua through the VOA or the Honduran and Costa Rican radio stations.

The circle then closes and a "balloon" that was locally inflated by the reactionary newspaper explodes abroad with a force that is far greater than this party actually merits.

All of these elements -- the rightist leaders or pseudo-leaders, their media, and their various actions -- "are part of a campaign of verbal terrorism that is vainly working toward a single objective: the creation of a political 'internal front' to complement the military fronts established by the Somozists and other counterrevolutionary groups in the northern and southern parts of the country."

This last subject led us to the "traitor" and his successive "shows" [in English] in Costa Rica. Commander Carrion smiled again, and said: "Pastora is a clown who is eager for publicity. His actions reveal his emotional instability and his lack of political consistency. He would do anything to get attention."

As for the military factors, Carrion added: "Imperialism has given Pastora a secondary role in its strategy, second even to the role assigned to the former guards in the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Forces] and to the MISURA [Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas]."

Almost 2 hours had passed. From the window we could just see the waters of the lake. We had not noticed the passage of time, and the interview was over. Commander Carrion concluded our meeting by saying: "We have talked a lot and about many things..."

POLITICIANS DISCUSS ELECTIONS, NATIONAL SCENE

PA111309 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Feb 84

["Direct Line" phone-in program with (Maria Elena Silva) of the Social Democratic Party, PSD; Gustavo Tablada, of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, coordinator of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR; Luis Rivas, PSD secretary general; and others -- live]

[Excerpts] [Quesada] Good evening, I am Esteban Quesada, of the German news agency DPA. I would like various perspectives from the panelists analyzing the draft [electoral] bill presented to the State Council. As for Dr Rivas, I would like for him to discuss the war situation and how it is affecting the country economically and politically.

[(Silva)] In a number of communiques, we have publicly opposed the fact that the commission drafting these electoral projects is totally Sandinist and is tied to the FSLN. There is no representative and egalitarian participation of any of the political parties that are involved in the country's political struggle; that is, the members of the FPR, the independent parties, and the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board.

[Tablada] I would like to point out to the Nicaraguan people and the people here that this draft bill presented to the State Council yesterday afternoon is a kind of compendium of the opinions of all political parties existing in Nicaragua, as was officially presented to the electoral commission. In addition, it also reflects the experience of specially appointed commissions that traveled to Latin America and to some European countries to gather specific information on the subject.

[Rivas] In answering Companero Quesada's question on the influence of the war on the nation, we first want to clarify, as we have done many times before, that our party, PSD, is essentially a civic party. It follows a firm, clear-cut policy. The problem is that there are disturbing war activities here daily. Some FSLN leaders and some newsmen from the Sandinist media would like us to protest every 2 or 3 days as those war activities take place. We have already said this once: Our party does not exist to satisfy other parties. Our party exists and it continues to grow to satisfy the Nicaraguan people's needs. Therefore, we cannot issue a communique every day or every few days. If we did, we would also have to issue a communique daily condemning the censorship of the newspaper LA PRENSA and the violations of union rights, as in the case of the longshoremen in Corinto, where the CUS [Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions] attempted to organize a union. They were expelled, and to use a colloquial phrase of the CUS leaders, they were literally kicked out of Corinto. This happens quite often, but we cannot continuously file protests, because we do not exist to satisfy the groups that would like us to repudiate these activities.

How does this affect the country? The war situation in Nicaragua definitely has an adverse effect. We are all experiencing and enduring its effect on the economy. Medicine is scarce; drug stores carry only shampoo and soap, no medicine. We see shortages. All this has a negative effect and pushes the economy further downward.

In regard to the military, we note the great number of military personnel. The FSLN needs this, but in the final analysis, the country cannot maintain such a large Army. This is a small country, and its infrastructure has been destroyed. It is trying to support an Army without resources, or with few and limited resources. This Army will continue exhausting the Nicaraguan economy.

Socially, many youths are dying and the Nicaraguan family mourns these deaths. This fill us with great grief and sorrow. This is a situation that we have not created, because we have sustained the counterrevolutionaries' politically justifying their actions by pointing to distortions in our process. We hope that the FSLN, both the party and the government, will initiate a real, democratic, just, and honest process with equal participation and the healthy freedoms that we have advocated on different occasions. Their political pretext, this justification, would then gradually lose validity, and the armed groups would run out of arguments to justify their actions. That is the strategy.

MAP-ML APPLIES FOR MEMBERSHIP IN STATE COUNCIL

PA110157 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Statement by Carlos Cuadra, Marxist-Leninist Peoples Action Movement, MAP-ML, leader; date and place not given -- reco ded]

[Text] I want to announce that the MAP-ML has recently begun an action on behalf of the legitimate democratic rights of the Marxist-Leninists, members of the MAP-ML, in Nicaragua We are asking the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the State Council to admit the MAP-ML as a member of the State Council and also to readmit the Workers Front to the State Council, as was originally established in the Constitution.

We base our petition on our right to be members of the legislative body. The MAP-ML founded in 1972, conducted a prolonged struggle against the Somozist dictatorship. The MAP-ML was always present on all battlefronts. It was the only organization that, through the Anti-Somozist Peoples Militias, MILPAS, actually fought at the side of the FSLN, with arms in hand, against the Somozist military dictatorship. We were also the only leftist party in Nicaragua able to present an ideological struggle front, through the newspaper EL PUEBLO. We also established a cultural cooperative.

As I said, we were present on all the battlefronts against the dictatorship, organizing the workers and peasants, preparing them to assume the people's power. We have presented alternatives for every situation and problem. We have participated in defense. We feel that we have the right, earned in the struggle, to a membership in the State Council. We are certain that the people agree, especially at a time when we are trying to define the nature of the Nicaraguan nation.

WORKERS STRIKE AT SAN ANTONIO SUGAR MILL

PA111829 Paris AFP in Spanish 2142 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Managua, 10 Feb (AFP) -- It has been learned that a strike by 6,000 workers of the San Antonio Sugar Mill, the first to be held in Nicaragua in the past 3 years, was lifted today to permit negotiations. The strike, which began last Monday to demand increases, proceeded without incident, despite the state of emergency law imposed in 1982 that bans this type of activity.

The strike in one of the largest sugar mills in Central America, located in Chichigalpa, 100 km north of Managua, broke out because the workers did not accept the terms of a bargaining contract between the enterprise and the labor union, which is affiliated with the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers.

The labor union began negotiating with the enterprise and the Labor Ministry Thursday evening in an attempt to end the strike, but as of today there were no reports on the outcome, because the parties have preferred to be discreet and because the censorship law prohibits publishing information on strikes.

The San Antonio Sugar Mill, which is a private enterprise, produces more than 50 percent of the sugar in the country, which exports some 3 million tons a year.

ANTI-SANDINISTS DISPLAYED AT NEWS CONFERENCE

PA102000 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Nine counterrevolutionaries were presented to the national news media today. They were captured in clashes between December 1983 and January 1984. The so-called commandos of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, include Bartolo Gonzalez Munoz, of the Rafael Herrera Task Force, which is led by Tigrillo. He participated in the massacre of peasants at the Cerro Quemado Cooperative in Los Cedros, jurisdiction of (El Puas), on 19 December 1983. Gonzalez Munoz, who was in charge of a machine gun, confessed he had participated in the massacre of more than five peasants. The other peasants were massacred by 200 FDN criminals led by Tigrillo.

During the press conference, 22-year-old Honduran Army Sergeant Donald Carcamo Ramos was presented to the news media. He said that counterrevolutionary operations are coordinated by high-ranking Honduran, U.S., and Argentine officers. The Honduran sergeant also pointed out that when task forces come to Nicaragua they are led by Honduran officers, adding that General Alvarez Martinez himself had participated in the attack on the civilian population of Las Manos. He personally took an M-16 rifle and fired on the Nicaraguan people.

Companeros Commander Alonso Paz Rodriguez, political leader for the FSLN's 6th region; Commander Cristobal Vanegas; and Deputy Commander Javier Lopez participated in the press conference to present these enemies of our people. Deputy Commander Lopez said Honduran Sergeant Donald Carcamo Ramos will be released.

Counterrevolutionary leader Manfredo Castellon, alias Bayardo, was also presented at the same press conference.

FDN REPORTEDLY SEEKS ALLIANCE WITH PASTORA

PA132155 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, an organization supported by the CIA, yesterday announced that it will rid itself of Somozists in its ranks in an effort to secure an alliance with the forces led by Eden Pastora, which are operating out of Costa Rica.

CASTRO, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN MOSCOW FOR FUNERAL

FL131334 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Good morning, comrades. We have some last-minute news concerning the arrival of the commander in chief in Moscow. He arrived at 1300, Moscow time, 0500, Havana time. Let's go to this video that has just arrived.

As I told you, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has arrived in the Soviet Union at the head of the delegation from the Cuban party and Government to the funeral of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

At the airport to meet the Cuban delegation were Politburo member Vitaly Vorotnikov and other high officials of the party, the Supreme Soviet, and the Council of Ministers, including Konstantin Rusakov and Arkhipov.

Also making up the Cuban delegation were: Comrades Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers; Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Poliburo and member of the Secretariat; and Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions. Lionel Soto Prieto, member of the Central Committee Secretariat and Cuban ambassador to the USSR, joined the delegation in Moscow.

Yuriy Andropov's funeral will take place, as we have been informed, tomorrow, Tuesday, 14 February at 1200, Moscow time.

The video images which we received at 0500, Havana time, show the arrival of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz in the Soviet capital.

Castro Pays Respects

FL131858 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, paid his respects today to Yuriy Andropov. Fidel Castro, who is heading the Cuban delegation to Andropov's funeral, placed a floral tribute on the bier of the man who was general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. Andropov's body is lying in state in the Hall of Columns of the House of Trade Unions in the Soviet capital.

Chernenko's Appointment Noted

PA132020 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Konstantin Chernenko, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, has been elected general secretary of this political organization. The decision was adopted by the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee on the death of Yuriy Andropov, who held the post after November 1982.

Chernenko was born 11 September 1911 in (Trasliak), Siberia, to a poor peasant family. He was a Komsomol leader from age 18 and joined the Communist Party in 1931. After holding leading positions in his native city and in the Penza region, in 1948 he held the top position in the Agitation and Propaganda Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in the USSR Republic of Moldavia. He was secretary of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR from 1960 to 1965; from 1965 he headed a department of the CPSU Central Committee; and as of 1978 he became a member of the Political Bureau.

Chernenko was a Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy during several legislatures, has twice received the title of Hero of Socialist Labor with the Golden Star of the Hammer and Sickle, and has also received the Order of Lenin, the highest state award given by the USSR.

HART DAVALOS LEAVES MOSCOW AFTER CULTURE DAY

FL112056 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Armando Hart Davalos, minister of culture and member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, has left Moscow after heading a delegation that participated in Cuba's Cultural Day held in the USSR. The Cuban leader was seen off by Soviet Culture Minister Petr Demichev and officials from both countries.

BOHEMIA REPRODUCES CASTRO NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW

PA131802 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] The Cuban weekly magazine BOHEMIA reproduced in today's edition the full text of the interview granted by Cuba's highest leader, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, to the U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK. Fidel Castro's analyses, under the title "Fidel Talks to Patricia (Hessey)," and in reply to the U.S. journalist's questions, cover a wide range of topics regarding international policies.

USSR TRADE MINISTER SIGNS ACCORD, RECEIVES MEDAL

FL112050 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Grigoriy Vashchenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of trade, was given the Fernando Chenal Pina Decoration, a medal granted by the National Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union [SNTCG], in an informal ceremony held at Cubanacan's Protocol House.

Benerando Fernandez, member of the SNTCG Secretariat, read the presentation speech which described the medal, pinned to the distinguished visitor, as representing accumulated efforts in the search for closer ties with Lenin's land and the development of socialist trade.

Rene Lara Moreno, member of the Central Committee and SNTCG secretary general; vice ministers; and leaders of the party and the People's Government were also present at the ceremony.

Cuban Domestic Trade Minister Manuel Vila Sosa and Vashchenko had signed an important bilateral agreement before the ceremony. The agreement included the exchange of goods through domestic trade and the evaluation of tasks covered in the cooperation plan for 1983-1984.

HUNGARIAN PARTY'S SZUROS ARRIVES ON VISIT

FL140213 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Matyas Szuros, secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, arrived in our country this afternoon. Julian Rizo Alvarez, member of the Central Committee Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], and Rafael Polanco, first deputy chief of the Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations, greeted him at the airport.

Szuros is thus responding to an official invitation from the PCC. During his stay, he will meet with PCC leaders and will visit places of historical, economic, and social interest.

CABRISAS MEETS WITH JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADER

FL140224 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas today began a busy schedule of talks with distinguished Japanese personalities as a preamble to the Sixth Bilateral Economic Conference. Cabrisas met with (Yoshikiro Imiyama), president of the Federation of Economic Organizations, [words indistinct] the conference. The Japanese business leader showed interest in the ideas expressed by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in his book "Economic and Social Crisis in the World."(Imiyama) recently received a copy of this book in Japanese.

ICRT WELCOMES SPANISH TV, RADIO DIRECTOR GENERAL

FL112055 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Jose Maria Calvino, Spain's director general for television and radio, has arrived in Cuba at the invitation of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television [ICRT]. Nivaldo Herrera, president of the ICRT, and Juan Larrogue, Spain's ambassador to Cuba, met Calvino at the airport. Other members of the Spanish delegation are Trystal la Rosa, director of international relations, and Ramon Triado, television director.

EFFORTS OF COMMUNICATION WORKERS IN ANGOLA CITED

FL140157 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] The Cuban communication workers who are fulfilling their internationalist mission in the People's Republic of Angola are complying with their creed of carrying out their task in wartime as well as in times of peace.

David Ruiz, chief of the communication workers, explained in Lubango -- capital of Huila Province -- that their main advisory task [word indistinct] includes technical assistance to (ENAFEL) [not further identified] and to the National Radio of Angola. He added that telephone and radio communications for Huila and Namibe were installed.

FERNANDEZ CALLS FOR PEACEFUL RESOLUTION IN C.A.

PA140235 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 4 Feb 84 p D-16

[Text] As far as Cuba is concerned, the Central American issue can only be resolved by peaceful means such as talks and dialogue, and certainly not with any military option, according to Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers in the only socialist republic in the Caribbean, who is visiting Caracas.

Fernandez went on to question the Kissinger report as, in his opinion, it fully agrees with the U.S. position favoring a military solution for Central America. The Cuban vice president rejects this resort to force, for it implies conditions of crime and oppression. It also threatens terrible living conditions for those in Nicaragua and other countries who justly rebel against the situation of excessive wealth in the hands of a minority while others live in poverty, and against excesses of power and lack of freedom of expression. This cannot be tolerated, Fernandez indicated, and thus it is unacceptable to support a military solution to the situation instead of seeking dialogue and peaceful accords.

When asked by reporters who interviewed him for a local television program whether Cuba would be willing, as suggested by the United States, to withdraw from Nicaragua altogether, the Cuban education minister replied: Cuba has always said that it is prepared to withdraw from Nicaragua completely, but everyone knows that the United States is spending millions and millions of dollars on war supplies that are sent daily to military bases, and that it has thousands of soldiers in the area and a fleet surrounding it. It would be unacceptable, he pointed out, for Nicaragua to be defenseless and thus permanently subject to such a threat.

COMMENTARY ON 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST NICARAGUA

PA101522 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 9 Feb 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] During the past few days the new Nicaragua has been the target of two bandit-like air raids by planes coming from Honduras. The Sandinist government expressed its concern over this rash aggression and asserted that such aggression tends to aggravate the regional crisis and the tensions in Nicaraguan-Honduran relations.

It is no secret that this new aggression on Sandino's homeland has been planned by the CIA in collusion with the Honduran Army and the leaders of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary bands that operate freely on Honduran soil. In this way the enemies of the Sandinist revolution are trying to inflict material damage and sow terror among the Nicaraguan population in a war of attrition against the largest Central American country.

The United States still has not completed its plans for a direct invasion of Nicaragua, although the threat is still present. Its current strategy consists of launching the anti-Sandinist groups in attacks on villages and economic and military targets in Nicaragua and bombing and shelling Nicaraguan territory from planes and speedboats. In this manner, the Pentagon and the CIA are trying to inflict the greatest possible damage to Nicaragua's economy and force the revolutionary government to allocate huge human and financial resources to defend the homeland. This delays the economic and industrial development that the country requires.

Comrade Luis Carrion reported this some days ago, and added that the United States is determined to wear out Nicaragua through these actions, without discarding the possibility of a direct invasion by its forces. The Nicaraguan deputy interior minister pointed out that the failures of the counterrevolutionary forces directed by the CIA suggest this latter probability. Carrion indicated that the CIA is determined to sacrifice all the Somozists as long as it can wear out the revolution and produce delays and difficulties in the country's development.

Carrion said that another variant of the CIA's plans consists of utilizing counter-revolutionaries to create a provocation in the border area, aimed at unleashing a war between Nicaragua and Honduras. Regarding this, Carrion reported the existence of a base for training terrorist commandos in the Honduran Department of Choluteca under Denis Reyes, a former crop-dusting pilot hired by the CIA. Carrion also said that the pirate boats that have attacked Nicaraguan territory in the past few days are based there.

Mentioning the role assigned by the United States to Nicaraguan rightist politicians, Carrion said they have the same objectives as the so-called task forces, that is, the counterrevolutionary groups. Carrion indicated that unlike these task forces, the politicians use verbal terrorism as a weapon.

Carrion described reactionary leaders as spokesmen of U.S. interests and asserted that these leaders head parties without support. He said further that these groups constantly attack the revolution and its institutions, trying to create mistrust and demoralize the people.

Together with these rightist politicians, the United States is manipulating some Catholic Church sectors to sow mistrust in the population and incite them to disobey the revolutionary government's orders. All these actions are part of the U.S. general strategy to destabilize the new Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan people, however, have not allowed the counterrevolution to drag them along and with their leaders have reaffirmed their Sandinist commitment to defend their homeland at all costs.

SALVADORAN ARCHBISHOP CONDEMNS RECENT MURDERS

PA140123 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, the archbishop of San Salvador, has accused the military leadership of manipulating information on clashes with the guerrilla forces for publicity purposes. The religious leader condemned the recent murders committed by the death squads, which are extreme rightist paramilitary forces supported by the government.

The San Salvador Archbishopric's Legal Aid Office revealed that 117 people died in that country last week, 66 of whom were killed in clashes between guerrillas and government troops, while 10 were killed by the death squads. The Army admitted having sustained the other 41 deaths.

Meanwhile, the clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti rebel station declared that the rebels had inflicted 40 casualties on the Army's Ramon Belloso Battalion in fights near the Honduran border. The official report released by the Salvadoran regime only admitted that 16 casualties were suffered by the Army, which is trying to remove the rebel forces from the hill of El Volcancillo in Chalatenango, some 85 km north of San Salvador.

MORE GUATEMALAN REFUGEES ARRIVE IN MEXICO

FL132230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Luisvaldo Villalpango, representative of the UN High Commission for Refugees [UNHCR] in Mexico, has stated that Guatemalans who are fleeing repression continue to enter Mexico everyday.

The UN official said that the number of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico amounts to more than 401,600. They are distributed among 69 camps attended by international organizations and Mexican officials. However, he added that it is very difficult to determine the exact number because more refugees arrive every day.

Villalpango said that Mexico has received and given assistance to those peasants who are fleeing repression in Guatemala in accordance with its traditional asylum policy. He also said that most refugees in Mexico's southern region are women, children, and the elderly.

NICARAGUAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO BE COMPLETED

PA140244 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Commander Luis Carrion, Nicaraguan deputy interior minister, has said that despite the attacks on Nicaragua all of the country's educational programs will be completed. The best guarantee of this, Carrion added, is the determination of Nicaragua's youth to carry out the tasks of the revolution.

The Nicaraguan leader said this at a farewell ceremony for a group of teachers traveling to Cuba for special study in the area of primary education. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish in a similar report at 2100 GMT on 13 February added: "On behalf of the FSLN National Directorate, [Carrion] bade farewell to the 50 years, Sandino Is Alive First Education Brigade at Managua's Commandante Ana Maria Plaza."] Carrion expressed thanks for Cuba's cooperation in education and stressed the difficult conditions under which the Cuban internationalist teachers must sometimes work, even at the risk of their lives, to assist in efforts to bring education to the country's remote rural sectors.

RESHUFFLE OF PRESIDENCY IN PANAMA NOTED

PA140024 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Panamanian Vice President Jorge Illueca has unexpectedly assumed the presidency of Panama as a result of incumbent President Ricardo De la Espriella's resignation. De la Espriella, who was scheduled to step down from his post officially in October, had been on a visit to Chiriqui Province in western Panama.

Illueca told the Spanish news agency EFE that he will honor the commitment to hold the general elections that are scheduled for 6 May. He said that the change in the presidency does not imply political changes of any sort in the government, while adding that his new duties as the head of the Panamanian government will force him to resign from his present position as president of the 38th UN General Assembly.

AYACUCHO MAYOR CALLS FOR TOWN MEETING IN PERU

PA100311 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Ayacucho Mayor Leonor Zamora has reiterated the call for an open town council meeting on Saturday, even t[illegible] the event has not yet been authorized by the area's political-military command.

The purpose of the people's town council meeting is to discuss the political, economic, and social situation in Ayacucho and to demand the lifting of the state of emergency which has been in effect since December 1983, as well as the withdrawal of the military forces that have been in the area since that time.

Political amnesty and trial and punishment for those responsible for the murders, kidnapings, and other violations of human rights in the area will also be demanded. This demand is also contained in a document sent by the Ayacucho Bar Association [Colegio de Abogados de Ayachucho] to the government. The Ayacucho lawyers demand full guarantees to carry out investigation of the killing of 8 newsmen in Uchurascay [as heard] in January 1983 and 34 peasants on 13 November 1983.

Mobilization Against Meeting Charged

PA120122 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] Peruvian Deputy Miguel Angel Mufare, representative for the United Leftist Coalition, has charged that more than 1,000 heavily armed soldiers, supported by armored personnel carriers, turned Ayacucho into a military garrison in order to prevent the open open council meeting that was scheduled for Saturday. The political-military group that controls the area did not authorize the meeting, which was called by Ayacucho Mayor Leonor Zamora for discussion of economic measures and other measures necessary to the achievement of peace in the area. Interviewed by a Lima radio station, deputy Miguel Angel Mufare said that the military mobilization prevented the representatives of 50 institutions from arriving in Ayacucho to attend the open council meeting.

Ayacucho Mayor Leonor Zamora has said that the open council meeting will be held despite the massive military deployment.

Other sources in Lima report that an armed group attacked a police post and two public buildings in Ricardo Palma, 40 km from the capital. The report adds that there people were killed in the clash with the police.

Media Carry Contradictory Reports

PA140148 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] The Peruvian news media are carrying contradictory reports on the abortive council meeting called by Mayor Leonor Zamora, a member of the opposition, in the city of Ayacucho. Most newspapers have reported that the government forces occupied the city to prevent the council meeting, which the political-military command for the region of Ayacucho had prohibited.

LA CRONICA and EXPRESCO, pro-government newspapers, reported that it was the people and not the forces deployed in the city who stopped the meeting. However, Mayor Zamora and reporters have said that troops blocked the entrance to City Hall.

Meanwhile, French run Marie Sanson was formally accused of terrorism in a Peruvian court for alleged possession of explosives and subversive propaganda. The charges were brought by the district attorney's office of Cajamarca, in the northern region of the Andes.

ARMED GROUPS ATTACK POLICE STATIONS IN PERU

PA122158 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Some 200 unidentified people have attacked the police station and municipal building in Ricardo Palma, a town located 40 km from Lima, with explosives and incendiary bombs. bombs. ANDINA, the official news agency, reported that no one was killed or wounded in the attack, but a local radio station reported that a policeman was wounded.

Other news services report that armed groups attacked and burned the police stations in Chupamarca and (Guaragua), in Ica Department. No further details on the attacks are available.

GRENADIAN YOUTH LEADER ON U.S. INTERVENTION

FL111730 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] (?Albert Matthew Jones), Grenadian youth representative to the WFDY, has stated that terror and violence are the methods used by interventionist troops in Grenada to eliminate the successes attained by the people in 4 years of revolution. The young leader, who is also participating in the meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the 12th World Youth and Students' Festival, also said that the Yankee interventionists are carrying out a broad anticommunist campaign in Grenada. (?Jones) added that the troops are trying to discredit the Cuban internationalist spirit.

The Grenadian youth said that to matter what the Yankees do, they will not be able to erase Bishop's example, which still exists in the people's minds. (?Jones) said that sooner, rather than later, his country will awaken to the present situation and will resume the revolutionary struggle.

The youth, who is also a medical student working at the Salvador Allende Training Hospital in Havana, said that lies, misinformation, and slander are the main tools of Yankee propaganda campaigns. He expressed confidence in the Cuban revolution and people, as well as his admiration for Cuban internationalists. He said that he is convinced of the integrity and conscientious attitude of the Bishop government and that of the leaders assassinated on 19 October.

FORMER GRENADIAN DIPLOMAT ON CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS

FL132315 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Caldwell Taylor, Grenada's former permanent representative to the United Nations, has said that the invasion of Grenada by U.S. troops has increased Central American instability.

The former diplomat highlighted his people's indignation over new policies implemented by the island's puppet officials, particularly in regard to the annulment of programs established by the Bishop administration in the areas of food supply, education, and health.

Taylor stressed that the U.S. invasion of Grenada increased the differences among Caribbean nations and weakened their security. He added that the Yankee policy in Central America is increasingly dangerous, and that the possibility that Nicaragua may become another victim of U.S. aggression cannot be ruled out.

FIVE LABOR UNIONS JOIN 'MARCH AGAINST HUNGER'

FL101917 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 5 Feb pp 1, 5

[Article by Saul Pimentel]

[Excerpts] Thousands of people participated in a so-called "March Against Hunger" organized by five labor unions yesterday afternoon in Santo Domingo. The march, supported by most leftist parties, was staged in an orderly manner with no incidents. According to political observers, this was the first important protest that has been staged during Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco's administration.

The groups that organized this march were: the General Central Organization of Workers [CGT], the General Union of Dominican Workers [UGTD], the Autonomous Confederation of Class Labor Unions [Confederacion Autonoma Sindical Clasista -- CASC], United Central Organization of Workers [Central Unitaria de Trabajadores -- CNTD].

The march ended at 1800 in front of the CASC headquarters where an impromptu rally was held. Most of the rally speakers protested increases in the price of staples and demanded a general wage increase. Labor unionists Julio de Pena Valdez (of the CGT) and Enrique Arias (of the CNTD) participated in the march riding in the back of a station wagon. Reformist leader Luis Sanchez Acosta was also there but it is not known whether he was representing his party in the march or whether his party backed the protest. Walking in front of a large group were leftist leaders Rafael Fafa Taveras, Juan B. Mejia, Ignacio Rodriguez Chiappini, and Rafael Baez Perez, among others.

CGT Secretary General de Pena Valdez said last night that "according to observers, more than 30,000 people" participated in this march. "This shows" he said, "the people's discontent with the IMF policy being implemented by the Government of National Consolidation. De Pena Valdez said that the labor unions have vowed that they will maintain a "united" front to promote the struggle for a 200-peso minimum wage and a 30-percent general wage readjustment as a way of counteracting the "dramatic drop in the purchasing power and salaries of workers and employees." He also indicated that they were seeking a new social security system that would include the entire working population, whether salaried or self employed, and the extension of medical services to family members as well. The CGT general secretary added that they would seek the passage of employment legislation that would gradually incorporate "that huge number of more than one million people who are presently unemployed in the Dominican Republic." He also said that they will fight for a reduction in the price of staples, particularly milk, and basic services.

De Pena Valdez said another demand would be new legislation on land reform that result in "a true land reform incorporating the 45 percent of the rural labor force that cannot be used because of lack of land." He ended by saying that the labor unions have agreed to hold a seminar at the leadership-level to determine the methods that should be followed by the "unity of action labor movement" so that this coordination will be permanent and not temporary.

BAHAMAS

PINDLING, OTHER OFFICIALS BOOED OUTSIDE HOUSE

FL131718 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 7 Feb 84 p 1

[By Athena Damianos]

[Text] Prime Minister Lynden Pindling was loudly booed by a small crowd of demonstrators who gathered outside the House of Assembly this morning to demand the resignation of the PLP Government.

The group, which was also on Bay Street to condemn drug trafficking, chanted and carried placards of which some read: "General Election Now."

Minister of Youth Kendal Nottage and Minister of Labour and Home Affairs Clement Maynard were singled out for abuse by the crowd who protested under the banner of the Concerned Citizens Action Committee, a newly formed political pressure group. Mr Nottage, who was called a number of names, strolled calmly to the House while Mr Maynard waved to the crowd of screaming protestors. The demonstrators also shouted to Housing and National Insurance Minister Hurbert Ingraham to resign.

When Sir Lynden left the House on the adjournment at noon, he was followed by a crowd of people who loudly booed him. Sir Lynden, escorted by his bodyguard and two policemen, walked to the doors of the Churchill Building, turned around and walked back to the people. Visibly shaken, he looked at the protestors, studied a placard and then turned around and walked into the building without a word. The protestors shouted abuse at him. About 45 minutes later, uniformed policemen stopped traffic on Bay Street to allow the Prime Minister's car to leave Rawson Square. The car, a navy blue BMW, accelerated quickly onto Bay Street as the crowd, once again, booed Sir Lynden.

The protestors cheered Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs and Blue Hills MP Arthur Foulkes as they left the House. Mr Isaacs and Mr Foulkes walked over to the crowd and shook hands with some of the people.

The Concerned Citizens Action Movement was only recently formed as a political pressure group to voice concern over allegations of Government corruption. Demonstrators included Rodney Moncur, a well-known Pindling critic, Bahamas Union of Teachers president Leonard Archer, the union's secretary-general, Haldane Chase, his wife Elma, and East Street barber Rupert "Lipstick" Williamson.

Mr Archer, who was forced into early retirement from the civil service by Government last year, said the idea to form the Movement came about as a result of a discussion outside the Commission of Inquiry one day. "A lot of people were grumbling and saying 'why doesn't the Commission do something.' Out of that came the idea that there ought to be a a way to get the people together to let the Government know that the people aren't dead and we aren't sleeping," Mr Archer said.

While he thought the Commission of Inquiry is doing a good job, he felt that enough has been heard for the Government to resign. Mr Archer realized the Free National Movement could not comment directly on matters before the Commission, but felt they could take a more aggressive approach when dealing with unemployment, political victimization of the state of the economy.

However, he said it was also the responsibility of Bahamians who are in opposition to voice their concern about the problems facing the country.

The Free National Movement will hold a meeting at 7:30 pm Friday at the Southern Recreation Grounds, taking as its theme "Sweet Music Man," a reference made by party chairman Cecil Wallace Whitfield to the Prime Minister at the FNM's pre-Christmas convention.

Tourists and shop clerks gathered on street corners during the morning to watch the demonstration. Mr and Mrs Leroy Rieser, visitors from Iowa, said the allegation coming out of the Commission of Inquiry must be "shocking" to the Bahamian people.

Of the demonstration, Mrs Rieser said, "I think they are orderly and organized and they respect the police and I think they have a right to demonstrate about matters that concern them." Mr Rieser felt the allegations could lead to "all kinds of internal problems."

BARBADOS

CONTROVERSY GROWS OVER U.S. MEDICAL SCHOOL

BAMP President Comments

FL102210 Bridgetown CANA in English 2034 GMT 10 Feb 84

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 10 (CANA) -- Barbadian doctors, "strong and unanimous" against the siting of offshore medical schools here, have called on the government to get rid of the controversial Grenada-based St George's University School of Medicine, which set up a temporary campus here following last October's U.S.-led Grenada invasion.

President of the Barbados Association of Medical Practitioners (BAMP), Dr Michael Hoyos, told a news conference today that members last night passed a resolution to this effect at a special general meeting.

The school, which is discussing with government the establishment of a permanent campus here, is currently at the centre of a raging controversy over the importation of 15 dead bodies for dissection despite a government statement that said no cadavers will be allowed in the island until appropriate legislation was enacted.

Hoyos said the question of the school setting up operations here did not surface after the invasion when students were evacuated from St George's. "...Negotiations to bring the school have been going on with the blessing of the Prime Minister (Tom Adams) since February 1983," Hoyos said.

The association's main argument against the presence of the profit-making foreign-owned medical school is that health services standards could be lowered. Its members also feel that since full operations had resumed in Grenada, the school should be asked to leave Barbados. Hoyos said in view of the "obvious haste" with which the school is setting up "permanent operations," the assurance given earlier by the government that the school's presence here was temporary was "worthless."

"It is in light of these facts, members were less than confident that the assurance given by the government that the school would not be allowed to use public (health) facilities will hold in the future," he said.

"Members felt that the ease with which government allowed the importation of cadavers without proper legislation in place to govern the use for which they were imported, and the illegal attempt to prevent members of the profession discussing issues pertaining to the school, left them with no confidence in government's actions."

Hoyos said in 1980, the government was against the presence of offshore medical schools in Barbados and the "conflicting statements" since then have created "a lack of confidence" among members. "...We really hope government may take some steps to correct (this)," he said.

The association has branded "illegal, unconstitutional and totally offensive" a directive from the minister of health to employees of the ministry ordering them not to "participate in any discussion or give any information" about the American-owned medical school. "We see this as an attempt to muzzle our freedom of speech...," general secretary, Dr Winston Crookendale, said. "We are calling on the minister of health to withdraw this directive immediately and tender an apology to the medical practitioners."

Crookendale said the St Georges School was held in question and cannot set up in the United States "because they don't meet United States' standards." "...We find it a very fundamental problem that we are prepared to accept something the mainstream of American medical practice does not find acceptable, (and) it meets our own standards," he said.

Hoyos appeared to take issue with Health Minister O'Brien Trotman who said the presence of the cadavers, despite the absence of appropriate legislation did not pose a threat to public health. Trotman said earlier this week the promised legislation would shortly be tabled in Parliament. "...The mere fact that other countries (where importation and dissection of cadavers is done) have a law to regulate their use attests to the presence of public health dangers without that law," Hoyos said.

Daily Voices Concern

FL101854 Bridgetown CANA in English 1621 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 10 (CANA) -- The Barbados NATION newspaper today called for strong assurances from government that the presence here of an American off shore medical school will not have adverse effects on local health care.

The editorial was the latest in a critical series to appear in the local press on the new St. George's University School of Medicine, which last month started operating here.

Controversy over the privately owned institution -- the medical profession has criticised it's establishment here -- heightened recently with the arrival of 15 dead bodies to be used for dissection by students of the school. The government had, a week earlier, given an assurance that such cadavers would not be permitted into Barbados before the relevant legislation was passed. Said THE NATION: "Given the government's rather inadequate way of dealing with the matter, one wonders about their assurances on the effects of the school's role in our health care. This is where we are particularly concerned and where we feel that there can be no compromise, if there is any doubt at all.

"The people of Barbados need strong assurances from both the school and the government before another chapter is written in this entire affair. Our medical authorities are worried and have found themselves in the press with unaccustomed regularity to make their case.

"Both the school and government should now realise that their comparative silence on crucial aspects of the affair is not diminishing public apprehension.

"Government in particular may well find that rather than having to deal with what it calls just a few malicious reports, it's own handling of the matter may have unleashed an epidemic of criticisms rising to plague proportions," the paper said.

JAMAICA

SEAGA SAYS DIFFICULT YEAR AHEAD FOR ECONOMY

FL131906 Bridgetown CANA in English 1737 GMT 13 Feb 84

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 13 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga has told Jamaicans the country's economic problems require "some strong medicine" and they must brace themselves for a difficult year.

Seaga's remarks last night were made shortly before he left for Washington, hoping to wrap up negotiations on a new balance-of-payments support programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). "I want you to understand here and now that this year is going to be a year in which we have to bite the bullet," Seaga told the closing session of the annual conference of his ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP). Seaga was meeting today with IMF managing director, Jacques De Larosiere for talks on a 180 million dollar (U.S.) standby credit faculity that was to have come into effect from the start of January.

The new negotiations were brought about after Jamaica failed two quarterly tests last year under a previous programme with the IMF that was worth 650 million dollars. As a pre-condition Seaga was forced to devalue the Jamaica dollar by 43.4 per cent, and create mechanisms for further depreciation depending on [words indistinct]. He has also placed a 12 per cent ceiling on domestic credit expansion this year as one method of pulling back on cunsumption.

The overall aim of the government is to show a balance of payments surplus, and to drastically reduce the fiscal budget deficit that is presently over 15 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), thereby reducing the need for borrowing.

Seaga said there has been a shortage of some basic commodities in recent weeks because of the country's foreign exchange problems which, he said, were aggravated by the fact that around 170 million dollars (U.S.) was being sold on the black market, and not reaching the banking system. Some of those funds were being exported or used to buy non-essential products, the prime minister said.

Seaga repeated his contention that most economic indicators here had moved in a positive direction from the negative trends during the 1970's, when the socialist regime of Michael Manley was in office. He added that the current problems stemmed from a decline in bauxite production from 12 million tonnes in 1980 to 7.3 million tonnes last year.

"Had we not had that problem, which reduced our earnings...we would never have had to face many of the problems we face today," Seaga said. "There would have been no devaluation, no parallel market (the tiered currency system that was in force for 11 months before the formal devaluation) no scarcity, no austerity measures."

Bauxite exports bring in the bulk of Jamaica's foreign exchange earnings.

The present economic problems underlined the need for the government's programme of structural adjustment to reduce dependence on a single sector of the economy, Seaga told his JLP supporters.

Seaga said one of the effects of the monetary measures he introduced would be a lessening of bank credit which was used to purchase black market hard currency for non-essential imports.

This should induce more foreign exchange to the banking system, he said. "The choice is whether the country wants to buy consumder foods, or on the other hand buy oil and raw materials," Seaga said.

The opposition People's National Party (PNP) had in the past sharply criticised the government for running a huge trade deficit through a relaxed import policy, but Seaga said the strategy was necessary when he came to office in 1980 because of shortages and scarcity Jamaicans had endured during the 1970's.

In a statement here following the broad outline of the new policy measures, the PNP had asked the government to state what programmes are to be cut, whether public sector jobs will be lost, and whether the government would keep its promise to hold subsidies on basic items for the next 15 months. It has also asked the government to state the size of the import budget and to say how it would be financed.

Seaga said last night he would flesh out the IMF programme after discussing it with his cabinet colleagues.

REID OPTIMISTIC ON RESOLVING VENEZUELAN DISPUTE

PA121811 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Feb 84 p 9-D

[Report by L.B.S.]

[Text] Regardless of the decisions that might be made by the UN secretary general, Guyanese Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid has partially opened the door to hope. Dr Reid, vice president and prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, who is attending President Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration on his country's behalf, has expressed optimism, regardless of the decisions that might be made by the UN secretary general in connection with Venezuela's territorial claim over Guyana. In a short interview granted to this journalist, Dr Reid said that "as a nation, Guyana has great hopes in regard to the change taking place in Venezuela, because the new government might benefit both our countries."

[L.B.S.] What is the current status of the negotiations?

[Reid] As you know, the problem is in the hands of UN Secretary General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar. He will have to make certain decisions in order to resolve the problem peacefully.

[L.B.S.] Based on the change you mentioned, isn't there a chance that the two governments might take another look at the problem in order to resolve it?

[Reid] At this point it would be unfair and inconsiderate to the UN secretary general to make a hasty decision about this because he has been working on it. The chance of a resolution existed long ago, but since our two countries did not reach an agreement, the decision was made to leave the issue in the hands of the UN secretary general.

[L.B.S.] Do you believe that there will be a prompt resolution to this problem?

[Reid] There is hope, but there are no guarantees. In any event, time is passing. This might prove beneficial in resolving this problem, due to the political change that has taken place in Venezuela. Any change brings new developments with it and this might be auspicious. There might be a just resolution for both sides. In any event, as a nation, Guyana has great hopes regarding the change that is currently taking place in Venezuela, because the new government might benefit our two countries.

MARXIST LEADER JAGAN ON VENEZUELA'S LUSINCHI

FL102226 Bridgetown CANA in English 2058 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 10 (CANA) -- Guyana's Marxist opposition leader Cheddi Jagan has welcomed this week's inauguration of Jaime Lusinchi as President of neighbouring Venezuela. "This neighbouring country has been playing a progressive role in the Nonaligned Movement and in the Contadora Group, which comprises Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia and Panama," he said. "The party of President Lusinchi, under the leadership of Carlos Andres Perez, took definite positions to defend the national independence of Venezuela, to fulfill the principles of the United Nations, and to struggle for peace, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean," Jagan said. The opposition leader said that his People's Progressive Party (PPP) "looks forward to President Lusinchi's placing Venezuela in the same position, and developing neighbourly good relations with Guyana."

Guyana and Venezuela have a long-standing border dispute that has provoked hostilities and ruptured relations, especially during the ousted Christian Democratic regime of President Herrera Campins. The new president is from the Democratic Action Party.

COURT ORDERS POLICE TO PRODUCE TENNASSEE

FL132203 Bridgetown CANA in English 2107 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 13 (CANA) -- The Guyana High Court today ordered Police Commissioner Lloyd Barker to produce opposition politician and trade unionist Paul Tennassee, who has been in detention since his return from an overseas trip last Thursday. The order was the result of a writ of habeas corpus filed by Tennassee's lawyer Llewllyn John.

Earlier today, eight members of the Democratic Labour Movement (DLM) who were detained by the police on Saturday were released without any charges being laid against them. Tennassee criticised the Forbes Burnham government during a tour of the Caribbean and called on regional governments to speak out against alleged human rights violations in Guyana. Under the order made today, the commissioner of police must produce Tennassee in court by 1430 hours local time tomorrow (1730 GMT).

AGRO-INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH BRAZIL

FL101910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1636 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 10 (CANA) -- Guyana and Brazil are to intensify co-operation in the areas of agriculture and agro-industrial development under two agreements signed here yesterday. a senior government official said today. The Brazilian's have offered to train Guyanese in both areas and a local team will visit Brazil within the next few weeks to "observe techniques and technology being used," the official said.

Under the agreements, Brazilian consultants will come to Guyana for specific periods and make recommendations for upgrading this country's agricultural and agro-industrial sectors. "Further discussions are to take place between the two countries in order to work out the financial and other details of the two projects," Winston Murray, head of Guyana's Department of International Economic Co-operation said.

The talks in Georgetown between a visiting Brazilian delegation and the Guyanese Government presented the first action by a working group which was established under a memorandum of understanding signed by the two countries in 1982. The Brazilians had a look at Guyana's production of cassava flour and soya bean as well as the processing of fruit and vegetables.

COLOMBIA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON DISPUTE WITH VENEZUELA

PA131444 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia has postponed the creation of commissions to study formulas to put an end to the dispute with Venezuela over oceanic and suboceanic areas for the time being.

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo asserted that at the moment there are no plans to create this kind of commission, saying that he was surprised to hear such reports from Caracas. He said: We believe it is time to [word indistinct] to establish a working calendar prior to the initiation of talks, as it would not be convenient for either country to maintain an indefinite dialogue on this or other topics of interest to the two countries (?in relation) to the watershed.

PERU

ARREST WARRANT ISSUED AGAINST 26 POLICEMEN

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[Excerpts] Ayacucho, 10 Feb (EFE) -- Today the Ayacucho prosecutor confirmed to EFE that a warrant for the arrest of 26 Peruvian policemen has been issued in the case of 31 peasants killed last November.

The Ayacucho prosecutor also indicated that his office is studying claims of 1,500 "disappearances" from October 1982 to December 1983.

According to the representative of the Attorney General's office, 360 of these claims have already been processed and he believes that each claim corresponds to a "missing" person in this Peruvian region, which is affected by the Maoist Shining Path terrorists, and by the Army and Police antisubverive struggle.

Prosecutor Jorge Zegarra indicated that the 26 policemen from the garrison in Soccos, a small town near Ayacucho, are allegedly responsible for the killing of 31 peasants, members of several families who were holding a prewedding party on 13 November.

Prosecutor Zegarra also indicated that police officials had reached the conclusion that the killing was reported carried out by Shining Path terrorists.

Today in Lima, Interior Minister Luis Percovich did not give any credibility to the report that the police carried out the Soccos massacre.

The minister said that the investigation carried out by Police Judge Lieutenant Colonel Felipe Salgado showed that police forces had no responsibility for the killings because the people involved were not identified, and that there was no proof that they were policemen.